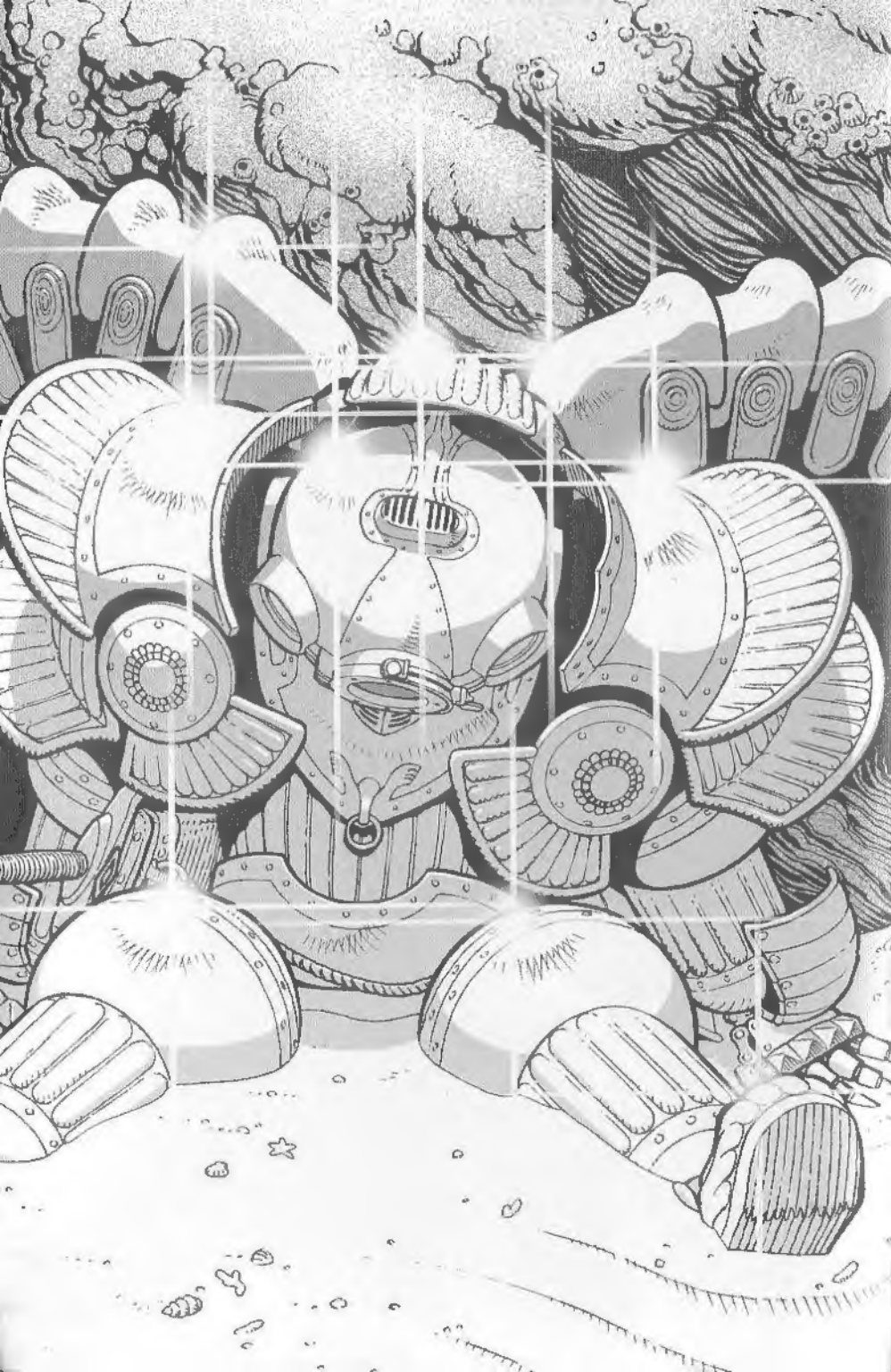
AQUA Knight

BY THE ACCLAIMED CREATOR OF BATTLE ANGEL ALITA!

Story and Art by

Yukito Kishiro

1



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Knight
Volume 1

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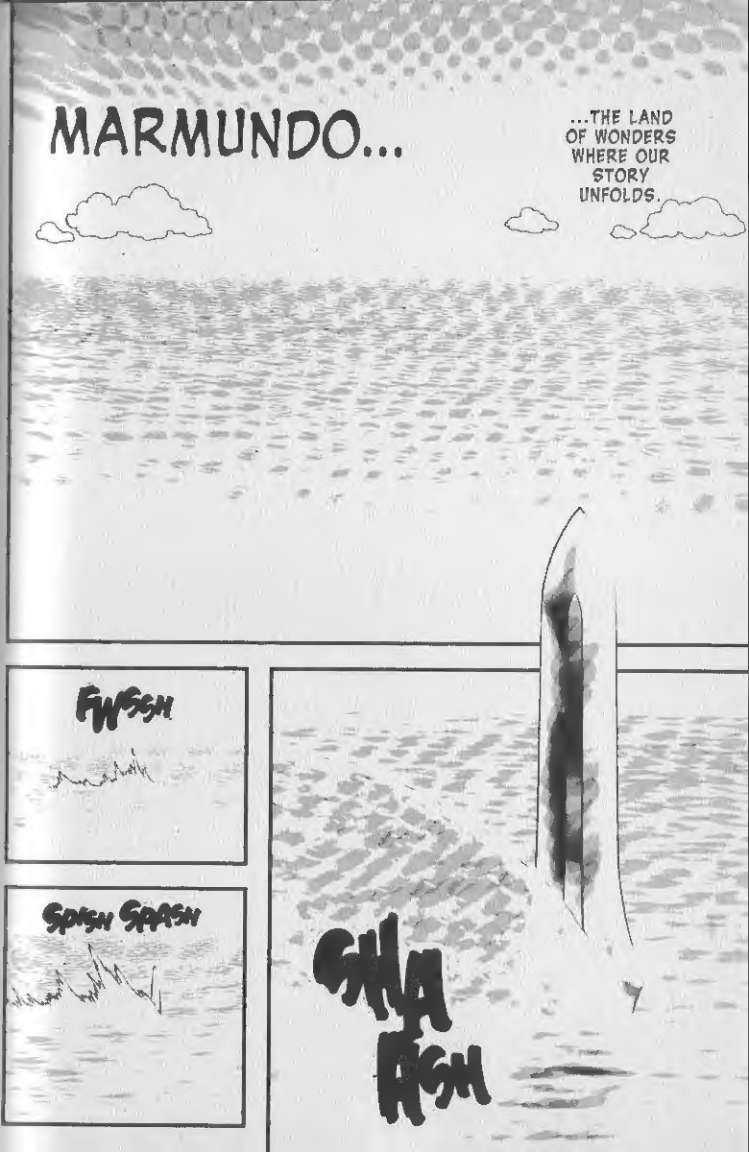
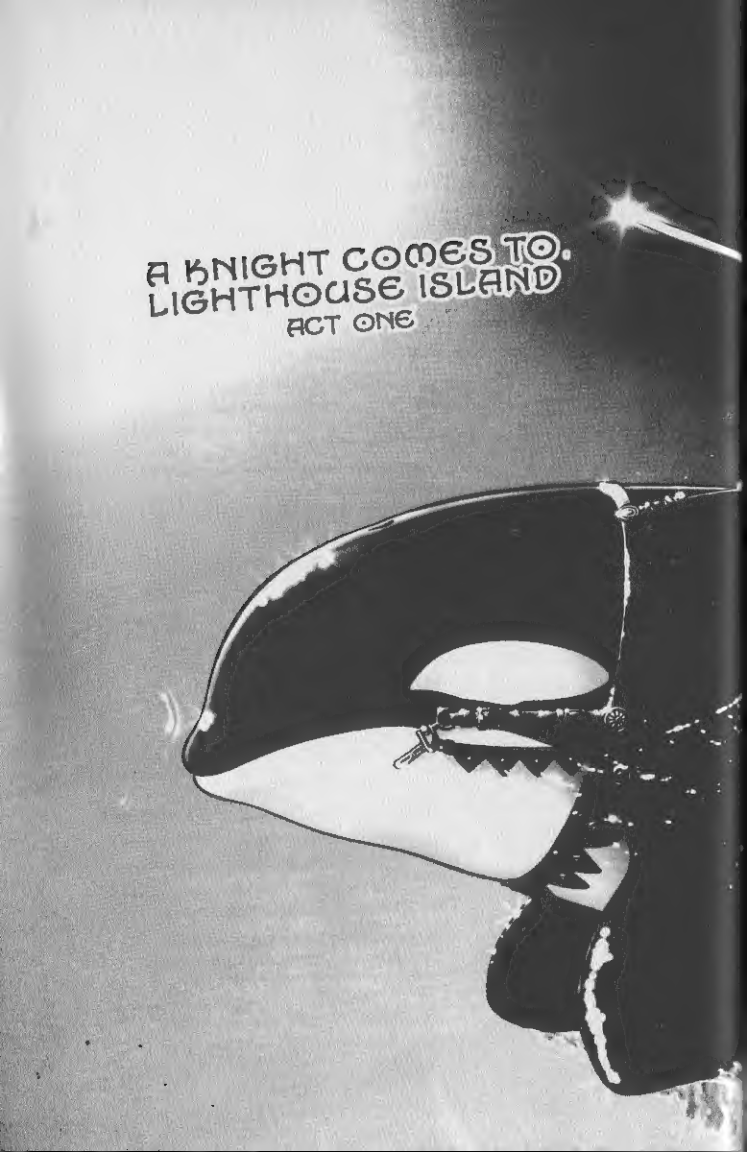

MARMUNDO...
...THE LAND OF WONDERS WHERE OUR STORY UNFOLDS.
FWSSH
SPASH SPASH
SHA ASH

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT ONE

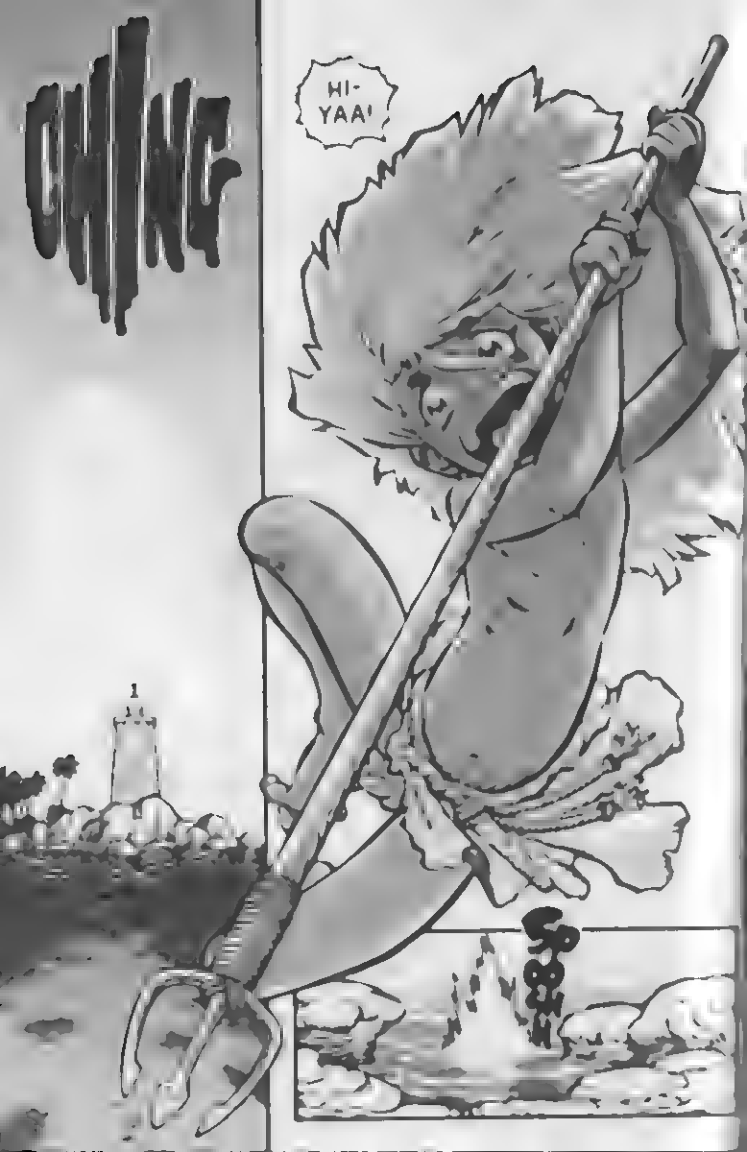


SCENE ONE:
FATHER AND SON

SIN WAR

WA HAHA HAHAHA HAAA!
WEAK! YOU'RE WEAK, I TELL YOU!
WOOM
DO YOUR BEST, SPIRITS OF THE WIND! BRING FORTH ALL THE GALES OF THIS WORLD! GATHER THEM AND CHALLENGE ME!
WA HA!
AS LONG AS I, ARRABARUS THE LIGHTHOUSE KING, AM ITS LORD AND PROTECTOR, THE FIRES OF THIS LIGHT-HOUSE WILL NEVER DIE!
F-FA-FATHER

WA HAHA! FEAR NOT, LITTLE ONE!
DO NOT LET THE SPIRITS OF THE WIND FRIGHTEN YOU!
WH-WHAT DO I DO?
DO THIS! OPEN YOUR MOUTH WIDE AGAINST THE WIND!
UWA HA HAA HAA HAA!
OOO YAHA HAHA HAA!
SHOOM
SKREE
AIYEEE!

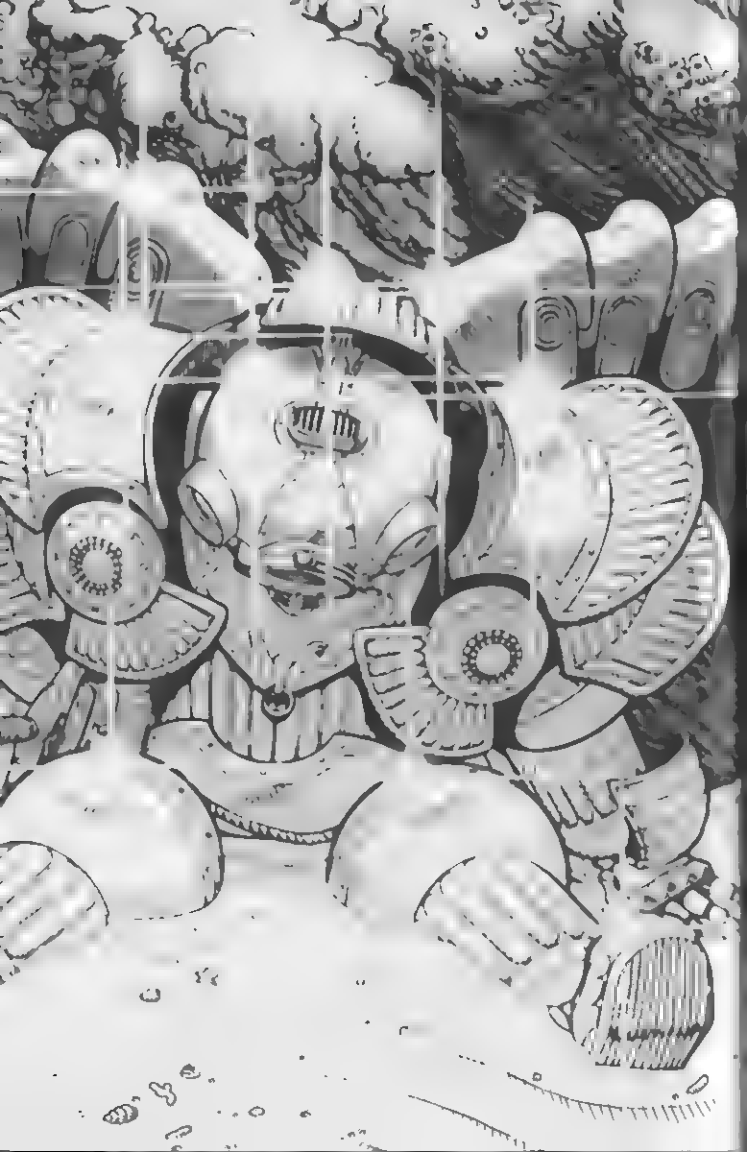

CHING
HI-YAA!

I GOT ONE!
ON THIS TINY ISLAND, FAR FROM ANY SHIPPING LANE, THERE LIVED A LITTLE BOY AND HIS FATHER
AND A KILLER WHALE
HEY THERE, SPOT!
NO! BAD!
THESE FISH ARE LUNCH FOR FATHER AND ME!
OWWW! STOP THAT!
HUH ?

ANOTHER ORCA !?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
SPLASH
AND WHAT'S THAT ON YOUR BACK?
SPRING
WH-WHAT IS IT?
!?
JING
SHING

SCENE TWO:
A GREAT DISCOVERY

SOMETHING'S *GLEAMING* DOWN THERE! SHINING IN THE WATER...
HAVING NEVER LEFT THE ISLAND, THE LITTLE BOY WAS UNPREPARED FOR WHAT HE SAW...



FAAA-
THER!
HMM
?
I
FOUND A
GREAT
GOD
UNDER
THE
WATER!

RRR RAGHH!
YAH AAAA AAA AAA!
KLANG

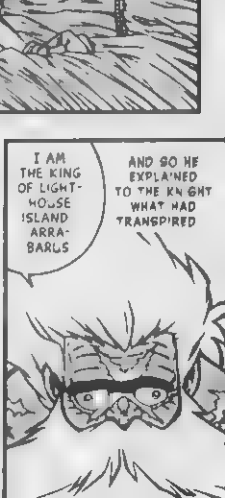
F-FA-FATHER...
HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE ONE!
THIS IS NOT A GOD... THIS IS CALLED A KNIGHT.
A "KNIGHT"?
A KNIGHT IS SOMETHING THAT LIVES UNDERWATER?
WELL, IF THEY GET CAUGHT IN A STORM AND SINK...
. BUT NO. THEY LIVE ON LAND. THEY WEAR ARMOR. AND THEY RIDE ORCAS LIKE SPOT. AND THEY USE SWORDS AND LANCES. THEY ARE IMPORTANT PEOPLE ..
YES. THEIR STATURE AND SOULS ARE HIGH-STANDING. INDEED!
THEY'RE IMPORTANT?

THERE MUST BE A CAN OPENER ON HERE
THERE!
CHA-KLIK!
KREEK
PUP PUP PUP
OH! A PERSON INSIDE!
BUT THIS PERSON LOOKS SMOOTH-- LIKE A DOLPHIN.
AYE! THIS IS CALLED A "FE-MALE"
SHAMAN

THIS PERSON IS BLEEDING!
OH, NO--HER HAIR IS RED!
WHAT BEAUTIFUL SPHERES! THEY LOOK LIKE PEARLS... BUT THEY'RE AWFULLY LARGE!
LOOK--A CLAMSHELL... IT MEANS SHE'S NOT YET MARRIED.
WHAT ARE THOSE BUMPS ON HER CHEST? OUCH!
ONLY HER CHILDREN AND THE MAN SHE WILL TAKE AS HER MATE MAY FEAST UPON THEM.
MMMMMM... SMELLS LIKE FLOWERS.
PERHAPS, PERHAPS
THE CLOTHES LOOK JUST LIKE A TURTLE'S.
THAT IS HER WATER ARMOR. IT PROTECTS A DIVER FROM ATTACK, GIVES THE STRENGTH OF TEN PEOPLE, AND ALLOWS THE KNIGHT TO DIVE TO THE DEEPEST DEPTHS OF THE SEA.

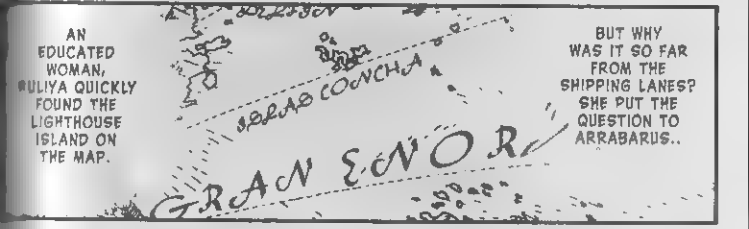
HMM...
THIS IS BAD!
THIS KNIGHT'S SPIRIT IS ABOUT TO LEAVE!
NOO! WHAT DO WE DO?
DANCE, LITTLE ONE! DANCE TO BRING BACK THE SPIRIT!
YA AAA AAA !!
THE BOY DANCED AND DANCED. ONCE HE STARTED TO DANCE, HE BEGAN TO ENJOY HIMSELF--SO HE DANCED EVEN HARDER.
YEE EEE!

SCENE THREE:
AWAKENINGS



I AM A KNIGHT OF THE KINGDOM OF ENORME, CHILD OF ALURAC AND EVELY. I AM RULIYA OF PERLA...
...AND.. I THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.
IT WAS NOTHING! IF YOU WANT TO THANK SOMEONE.
. THANK THE LITTLE ONE DANCING OUTSIDE.
THAT AND THE GRACE OF MAGNA PRIMERO.
I SHALL DO SO.
DESPITE HIS FORMIDABLE APPEARANCE, ARRABARUS'S KIND WORDS QUICKLY EASED RULIYA'S MIND

ALTHOUGH RULIYA WAS A KNIGHT, SHE WAS STILL IN TRAINING. IN ORDER TO BECOME A TRUE KNIGHT, SHE WOULD FIRST HAVE TO EMBARK ON A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY--
--BUT A FIERCE STORM HAD TAKEN HER FAR FROM THE PLANNED COURSE OF HER QUEST


AN EDUCATED WOMAN, RULIYA QUICKLY FOUND THE LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND ON THE MAP.
MAR DE CONCHA
GRAN ENOR
BUT WHY WAS IT SO FAR FROM THE SHIPPING LANES? SHE PUT THE QUESTION TO ARRABARUS..

THIS ISLAND'S LIGHT-HOUSE IS MAGICAL!
THE DAY THAT ITS FIRES DIE OUT, MARMUNDO SHALL ALSO DIE!
AND SO I, ARRABARUS, MUST PROTECT IT WITH MY LIFE!
HE SEEMS POS-SESSED BY HIS BELIEF IN THE GODS
FOR RULIYA, HIS STORY WAS HARD TO BEL EVE

SCENE FOUR:
TWO CONDITIONS

SHAAAAAA
YAAY! I SEE THE KNIGHT'S SPIRIT HAS RETURNED!
ARE YOU THE ONE WHO FOUND ME?
OHHH THE KNIGHT LOOKS LIKE AN ORCA
OF ALL THAT THE BOY HAD SEEN, THE WHALES WERE BY FAR THE MOST GLORIOUS

I GIVE YOU MY THANKS.
HE WAS OVERWHELMED BY HER BEAUTY, HER PRESENCE, HER STRENGTH-- SO UNLIKE ANYTHING HE HAD EVER ENCOUNTERED. TO HIS YOUNG EYES, RULIYA WAS PERFECTION ITSELF.
I AM RULIYA OF PERLA.
WHAT IS YOUR NAME?
MY NAME? HMM...
LATELY I'M CALLED "LITTLE ONE" OR "YOUNG BOY"!
NOT THOSE BUT NOT YOUR NAME!
HUH? THEY AREN'T I?
I KINDA LIKED THEM...
....
AT FIRST, RULIYA THOUGHT THE BOY WAS TEASING...

...BUT THEN SHE REMEMBERED READING THAT SOME PRIMITIVE CULTURES NEVER REVEAL THE NAMES OF THEIR CHILDREN--AS A PROTECTION AGAINST EVIL SPIRITS.
I OWE YOU MY LIFE, LITTLE ONE.
I WOULD LIKE TO REWARD YOU
WHAT DO YOU DESIRE?
YOU CAN'T HAVE MY BODY, MY ARMOR, OR MY ORCA--BUT ANYTHING ELSE IS YOURS!
YOU MEAN IT ?
THAT'S A PRO-MISE
SO EASILY SAID! ONLY LATER WOULD SHE COME TO REGRET HER WORDS ..
I WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A KNIGHT!

I WANT TO BECOME A KNIGHT AND FIND GOD!
BECOMING A KNIGHT ISN'T AS SIMPLE AS YOU THINK!
BUT RULIYA PROMISED ME!
THERE ARE A LOT OF QUESTIONS I WANT TO ASK GOD!
OH, DEAR
RULIYA WAS NOT YET A FULL-FLEDGED KNIGHT, THUS SHE HAD NO POWER TO BEKNIGHT ANOTHER
BUT ONE OF THE FOREMOST VIRTUES OF A KNIGHT IS TO ALWAYS KEEP YOUR WORD.

THERE ARE TWO CONDITIONS..
ONE IS TO FIND OUT YOUR OWN NAME!
YOU CANNOT BE A KNIGHT WITHOUT KNOWING YOUR NAME!
MY NAME? ALL RIGHT.
AND THE OTHER?
THE OTHER...
IN ORDER TO POSTPONE THE MATTER, RULIYA INTENDED TO TELL THE BOY, "YOU MUST FIRST GROW TO ADULTHOOD," BUT...
...SHE COULDN'T RESIST TEASING THE CHILD JUST A LITTLE.
WELL... IN ORDER TO BECOME A KNIGHT, YOU MUST FIRST PASS A TEST...
SHAAAAAA
I'LL DO IT! I'LL UNDERGO ANY ORDEAL!

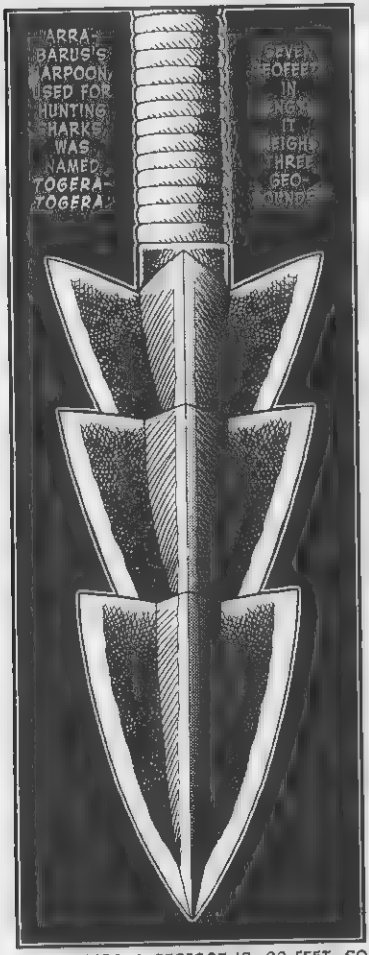
ONLY THOSE WHO HAVE SHOWN SUCH COURAGE CAN BECOME A KNIGHT!
OF COURSE, THAT WAS A BIG LIE.
A DRAGON... !?!
HMMM.. A DRAGON'S JEWEL..
TEE HEE HEE...
WHAT A SIMPLE CHILD..
THIS, TOO, RULIYA WOULD COME TO REGRET.

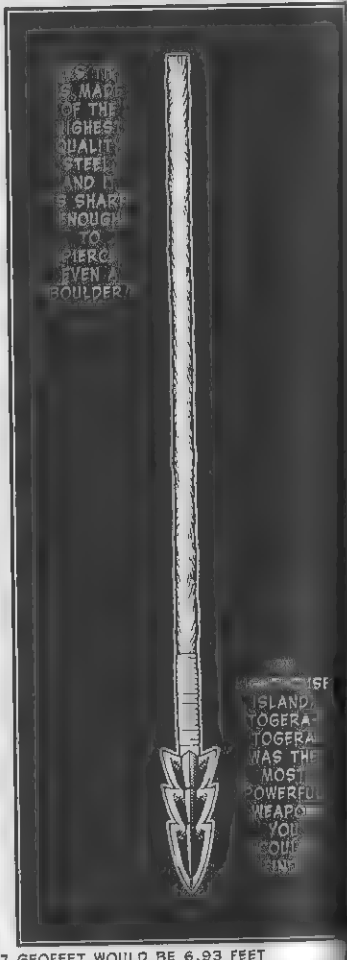
FATHER! FATHER!
WHERE CAN I FIND A DRAGON ??
A DRAGON YOU SAY?
HMMM. YOU JOURNEY WESTWARDS FROM THIS ISLAND FOR A DAY AND A NIGHT.
AT THE EDGE OF THE OCEAN IS THE CATARATA TERMINO...
...AND IN THAT GREAT WATERFALL, IT IS SAID, DWELLS A DANGEROUS DRAGON.
ALL I DO IS GO WEST !?!

EH? THAT'S MY SHARK-HUNTING HARPOON.
WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH THAT?
I'M GOING TO GO GET ME A DRAGON JEWEL!

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND
ACT TWO
BATHING
IN MARMUNDO, FRESH WATER IS PRECIOUS INDEED ONLY THOSE OF ROYAL STATURE MAY BATHE IN IT--THOUGH BATHING ITSELF IS RARE, EVEN WITH SEA WATER

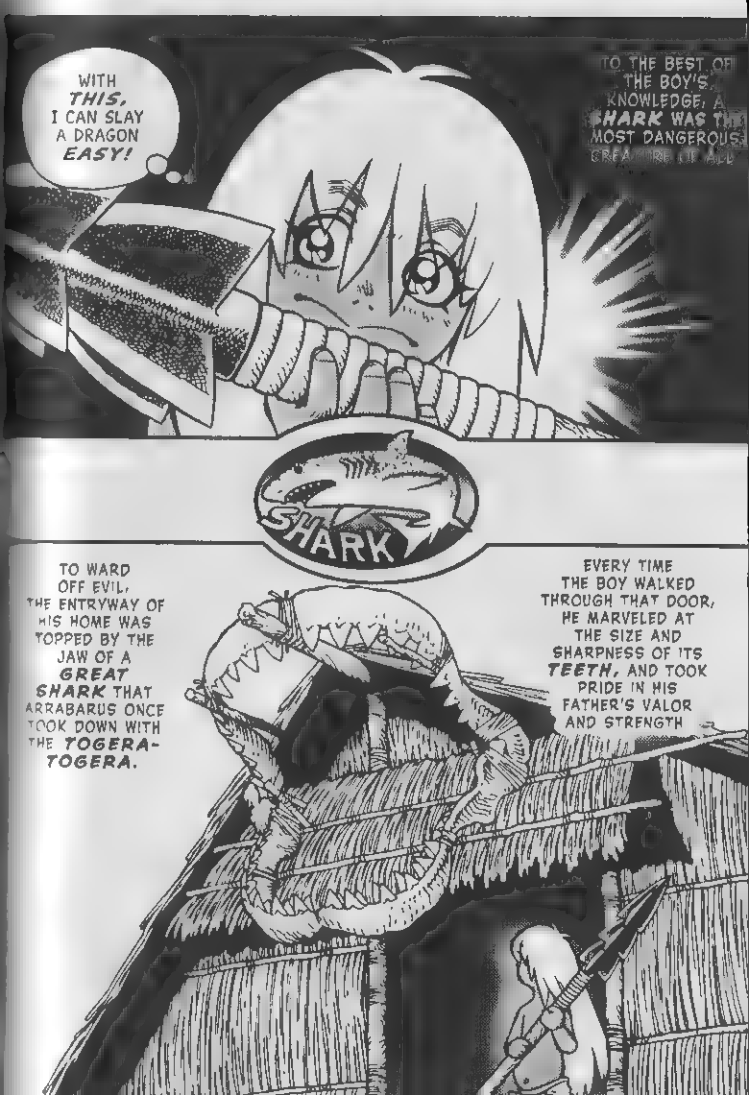
SCENE FIVE:
THE HARPOON TOGERA-TOGERA





*GEOFEET. A GEOFOOT IS .99 FEET; SO 7 GEOFEET WOULD BE 6.93 FEET

**GEOPOUND. A GEOPOUND IS 8.26 POUNDS, SO 3 GEOPOUNDS IS 24.78 POUND


WITH THIS, I CAN SLAY A DRAGON EASY!
TO THE BEST OF THE BOY'S KNOWLEDGE, A SHARK WAS THE MOST DANGEROUS CREATURE IT AD
SHARK
TO WARD OFF EVIL, THE ENTRYWAY OF HIS HOME WAS TOPPED BY THE JAW OF A GREAT SHARK THAT ARRABARUS ONCE TOOK DOWN WITH THE TOGERA-TOGERA.
EVERY TIME THE BOY WALKED THROUGH THAT DOOR, HE MARVELED AT THE SIZE AND SHARPNESS OF ITS TEETH, AND TOOK PRIDE IN HIS FATHER'S VALOR AND STRENGTH

RULIYA SAID IF I BRING BACK THE DRAGON'S JEWEL, SHE'LL MAKE ME A KNIGHT!
TAK TOK
WAK
THE BOY HAD NEVER SEEN A DRAGON
HE HADN'T EVEN SEEN THE CATARATA TERMINO, WHERE HIS FATHER SAID THE DRAGON LIVED.
OUR LITTLE HERO WASN'T EVEN SURE WHAT IT MEANT TO BECOME A KNIGHT...
OKAY, SPOT-- LET'S GO!

NEVERTHELESS, FILLED WITH A SENSE OF ADVENTURE, HIS HEART WAS LIKE A GIANT, HAPPY CLOUD
HEAD WEST, SPOT! WEST!

SCENE SIX:
THE SECRET OF THE LIGHTHOUSE

AS THE SUN SANK INTO THE HORIZON, RULIYA VISITED THE LIGHTHOUSE WITH ARRABARUS.
WHAT *AMAZING* STONE-WORK!
EVEN IN MY HOMELAND OF *PERLA*, THERE IS NO LIGHTHOUSE SO MAGNIFICENT!
WATCH YOUR STEP, LADY KNIGHT.

WHAT IS *THIS* CONTRAPTION?
THIS IS WHAT MAKES THE LIGHT REVOLVE!
AFTER I WIND UP THE WEIGHTED ROPE, IT LOWERS, SLOWLY...AND ROTATES THE LENS ATOP THE LIGHTHOUSE!
RRNK RNK
IF I WIND ALL FOUR WEIGHTS, IT CAN GO FOR FIVE OR SIX HOURS.
VERY CLEVER
IT MAY NOT BE THE *GREAT LIGHTHOUSE OF REZAR,* BUT IT NEEDN'T BE ONE OF THE SEVEN WONDERS OF MARMUNDO...
..FOR *THIS* LIGHTHOUSE TO HAVE A VERY, *VERY* IMPORTANT DUTY.
HERE WE ARE-- THE *TOP.*

!?
TH-THIS ISN'T THE LIGHT OF A FLAME!
DO NOT GAZE INTO THE LENS. YOU WILL BE BLINDED.
MY WIFE...
NISELLE.
ALLOW ME TO INTRO-DUCE
THE LIGHT OF MY LIFE
WHO DISPELS THE DARK OF THE WORLD..
I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT!
NO HEAT... ALMOST LIKE MOONLIGHT-- BUT MANY, MANY TIMES BRIGHTER!
RULIYA BEGAN TO UNDERSTAND WHY ARRABARUS CALLED THIS A "MAGICAL LIGHTHOUSE."

THIS IS LADY RULIYA...
...AN AQUA KNIGHT FROM THE ISLAND OF PERLA.
?
HE THINKS THE LIGHT IS HIS WIFE!
I SUPPOSE SHE MUST HAVE DIED A LONG TIME AGO.
TO HELP HIM BEAR HIS LOSS, THE GODS MUST HAVE LET HIM SEE HIS WIFE IN THE LIGHT.
MM...
H-HOW DO YOU DO! I AM RULIYA.
RUL YA DECIDED TO PLAY ALONG WITH ARRA-BARUS'S FANTASY.
SHE IS A CASTAWAY FROM THE STORM. THE LITTLE ONE FOUND HER.
I OWE THE LITTLE ONE A GREAT DEBT.
I'M STARTING TO LOSE IT!

COME TO THINK OF IT .
...I HAVEN'T SEEN THE LITTLE ONE
QUITE A WHILE!
HMM?
HE SAID HE WAS GOING OFF TO SLAY A DRAGON OR SOME-THING.
GULP..
"DR-DRAGON. YO.. SAY?
HE ASKED ME WHERE TO FIND ONE...
...SO I TOLD HIM A DRAGON PROBABLY LIVES IN THE CATARATA TERMINO.

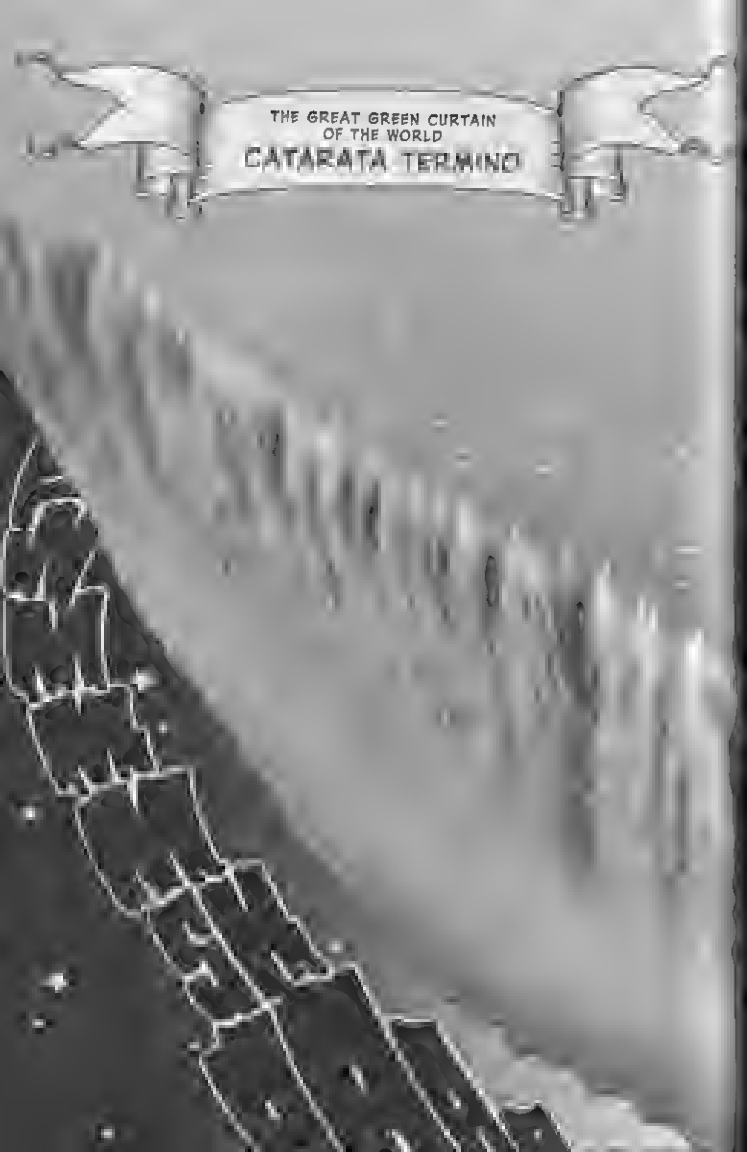
HE TOOK [illegible] GREAT [illegible]POON AND WENT ON HIS MERRY WAY!
HA HA HA
HE DIDN'T..
HMM? YOU LOOK PALE, LADY KNIGHT.
I THOUGHT HE'D GIVE UP IF I GAVE HIM AN IMPOSSIBLE QUEST!
I DIDN'T THINK HE'D REALLY GO OFF TO SLAY A DRAGON...
FAIRY TALE OR NOT...
THE CATARATA TERMINO IS TOO DANGER-OUS!
I'LL GREATLY REGRET HAVING AIDED I[illegible]

LADY RULIYA-- WHERE ARE YOU GOING!?
IT'S MY RESPONSI-BILITY!
MIGMA!
SOOSH
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT THE LITTLE ONE
HE GROWS BORED EASILY WILL RETURN WHEN HE GETS HUNGRY
HOW HAPPY I WOULD BE IF THAT CAME TO PASS...
CHACK
KLAK

BUT AS A KNIGHT, I CANNOT TAKE THAT CHANCE!
UPON THE NAME OF MAGNA PRIMERO, I SWEAR...
...I WILL BRING THE LITTLE ONE BACK TO SAFETY!
OH YES...
WHAT IS THE LITTLE ONE'S NAME?
HMM... HIS NAME ?
?
COME

SCENE SEVEN:
CATARATA TERMINO

AHEAD


THE GREAT GREEN CURTAIN
OF THE WORLD
CATARATA TERMINO

THE END OF THE OCEAN?
I CAN'T SEE IT VERY WELL FROM HERE...
LET'S GET A CLOSER LOOK, SHALL WE?
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SPOT? WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF!?
ASHIKA!
!?

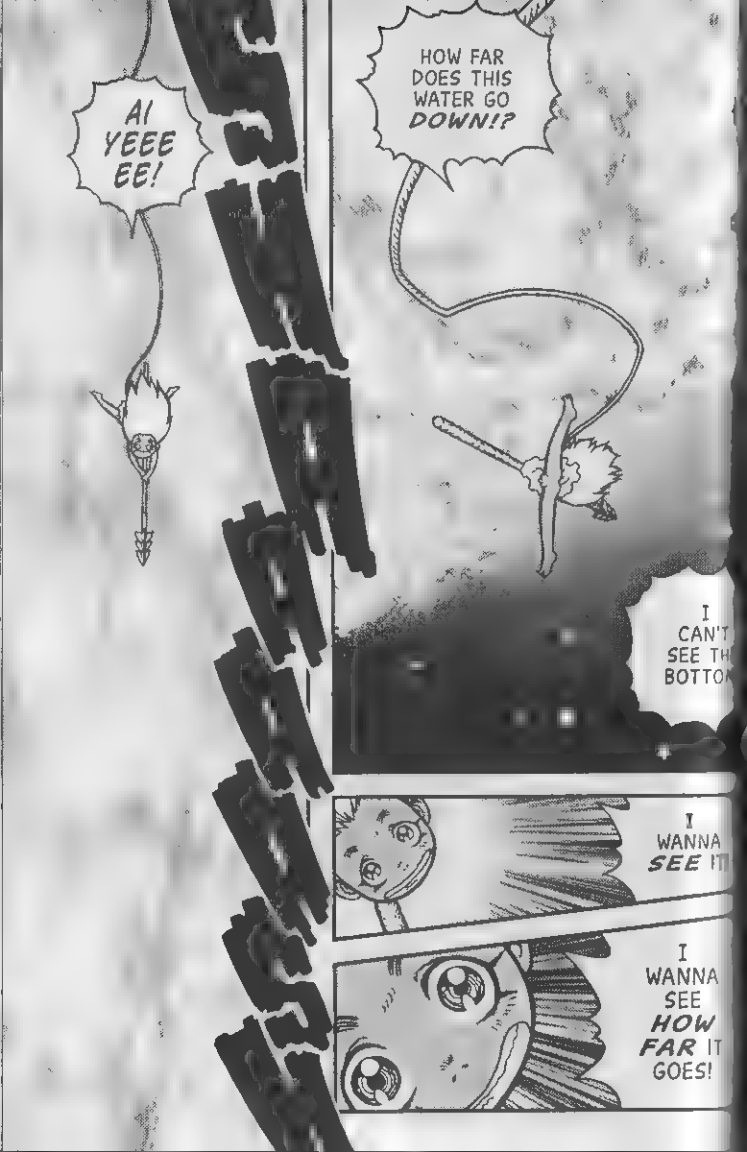
..ADY
..LIYA!
I'M GLAD I CAUGHT YOU...
TURN BACK, ASHIKA-- IT'S DANGER-OUS!
WHAT'S AN "ASHIKA" ?
IT IS YOUR TRUE NAME! ARRABARUS THE LIGHTHOUSE KING TOLD ME!

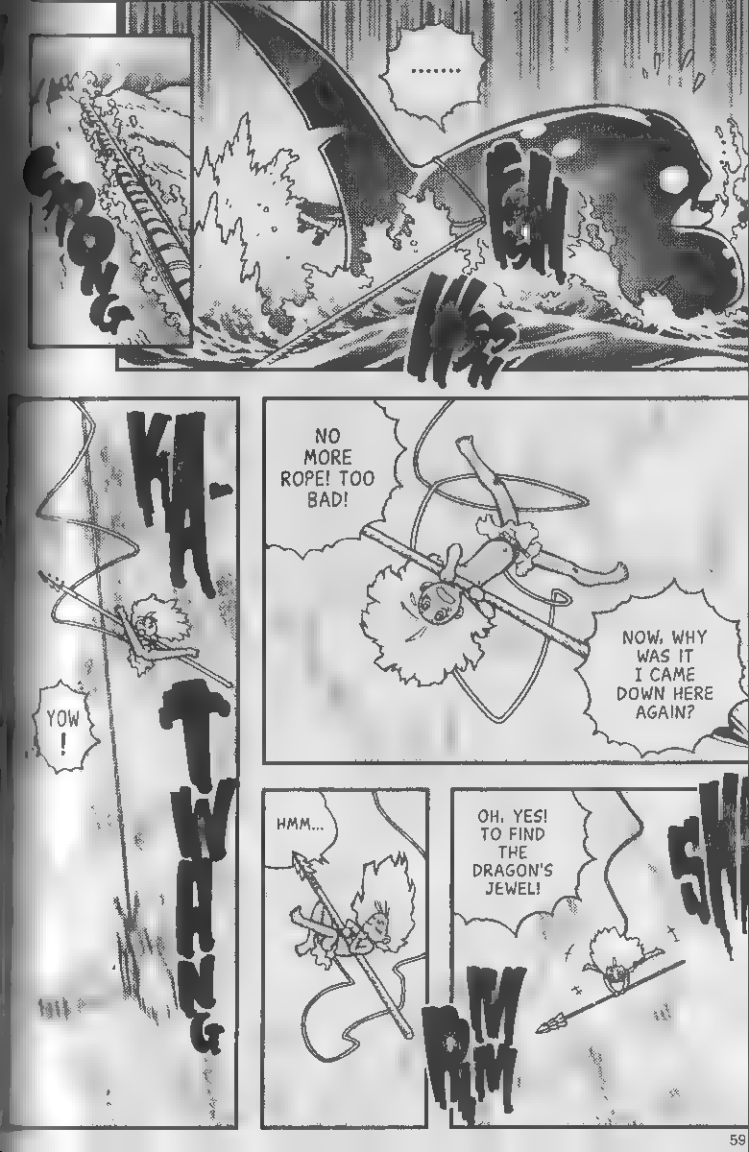
MY NAME...
...IS "ASHIKA"?
HEH!
I LIKE IT!♥
WELL, TIME TO GET THE DRAGON'S JEWEL!
NEVER MIND THE DRAGON'S JEWEL!
JUST COME BACK HERE!
YAA AAA AAH!
POING

WHERE'S THE DRAGON!?

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHT-HOUSE ISLAND

ACT THREE


AI YEEE EE!
HOW FAR DOES THIS WATER GO DOWN!?
I CAN'T SEE TH BOTTO
I WANNA SEE IT!
I WANNA SEE HOW FAR IT GOES!


.....
STRONG
KA-
TWANG
YOW!
NO MORE ROPE! TOO BAD!
NOW, WHY WAS IT I CAME DOWN HERE AGAIN?
HMM...
OH, YES! TO FIND THE DRAGON'S JEWEL!
RM RM

HOW TERRIFY-ING...
DOESN'T THAT BOY HAVE ANY FEAR?
TEN YEARS AGO, WHEN RULIYA WAS A PASSENGER ON HER UNCLE'S MERCHANT SHIP SHE WITNESSED THE SOUTHERN EDGE OF THE WORLD.
MERCHANT SHIP
VIENTO VALOR

KEEP THE SAIL LINES TAUT!
AYE, AYE!
SUNKEN ROCKS OFF THE PORT SIDE!
AAA AAH!
FWOOH FWOOH
CAPTAIN MACHELEY
RULIYA'S UNCLE ON HER MOTHER'S SIDE. A SAILOR FROM THE SEAFARING COUNTRY OF DINERO.

LIYA (AGE 8)

CATARATA TERMINO TO THE SOUTH
THE CATARATA TERMINO, WHERE
EVERY SAILOR.
ADULTS--AND PRAY TO HER GOD...

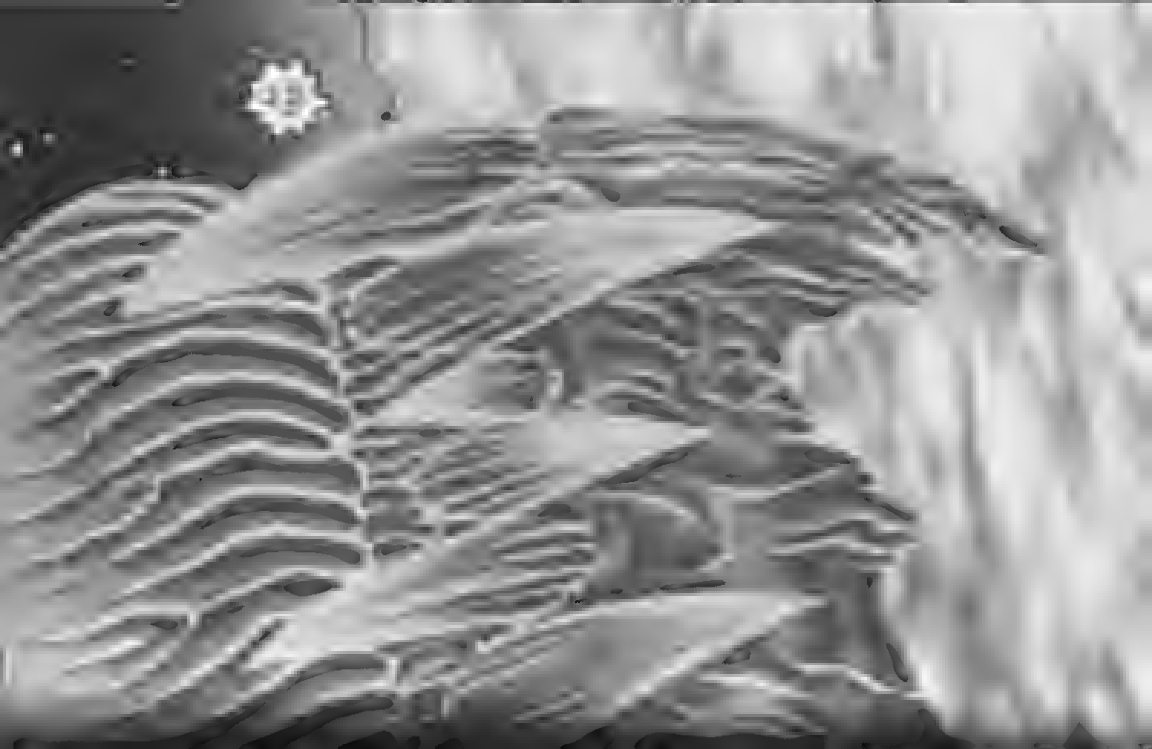
BUT I'M NO LONGER A DEFENSE-LESS CHILD!
LET'S GO, MIGMA! TIME TO SHOW SOME *COURAGE!*
AND TO DO MY DUTY AS A *KNIGHT!*

GOT IT!
ALL RIGHT MIGMA
SWIM WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!
SHWEEEE
SKRRICK

SCENE EIGHT:
THE JAWS OF THE DRAGON

SNAP
C-CAN IT BE...?
IS THAT THE DRAGON!?
APPROACH IF YOU DARE!
WITH THE TOGERA-TOGERA, I'LL

GRRR
OWR
....



FWIP
FWIP
WIIP
SHAA
AAAA
SHAAAA
AAAA

FLY UP
LADY RULIYA!
FLAP FLAP
ASHIKA! THAT WAS FOOL-HARDY...
I SAW A DRAGON!
IT ALMOST ATE ME UP! IT WAS HUGE!
DRAGON?
OH, MY-- HOW SAD! DOES HE SUFFER FROM THE SAME DELUSIONS AS HIS FATHER...?

SCENE NINE:
THE UNFORGETTABLE PACT

THE BOY'S CRIES COULD BE HEARD LEAGUES AWAY.
WAAAA

IT WAS WRONG OF ME TO SEND YOU ON THIS QUEST.
BUT YOU ARE VERY COURAGEOUS-- YOU HAVE PROVEN THAT
SO YOU'LL MAKE ME A KNIGHT?
I CAN-NOT...
...BUT INSTEAD, I WILL MAKE YOU MY SQUIRE!
NO! NO! NO! I WANNA BE A KNIGHT!
FWAP FWAP FWAP
HEAR ME O... LITTL... ONE!
NOW...
BEFORE YOU CAN BECOME A KNIGHT, YOU MUST FIRST LEARN MANY THINGS...
HOW TO USE WEAPON... HOW TO CONT... THE WATER AR... HOW TO COND... YOURSELF IN T... MANNER OF ... KNIGHT. HOW ... READ AND WRITE

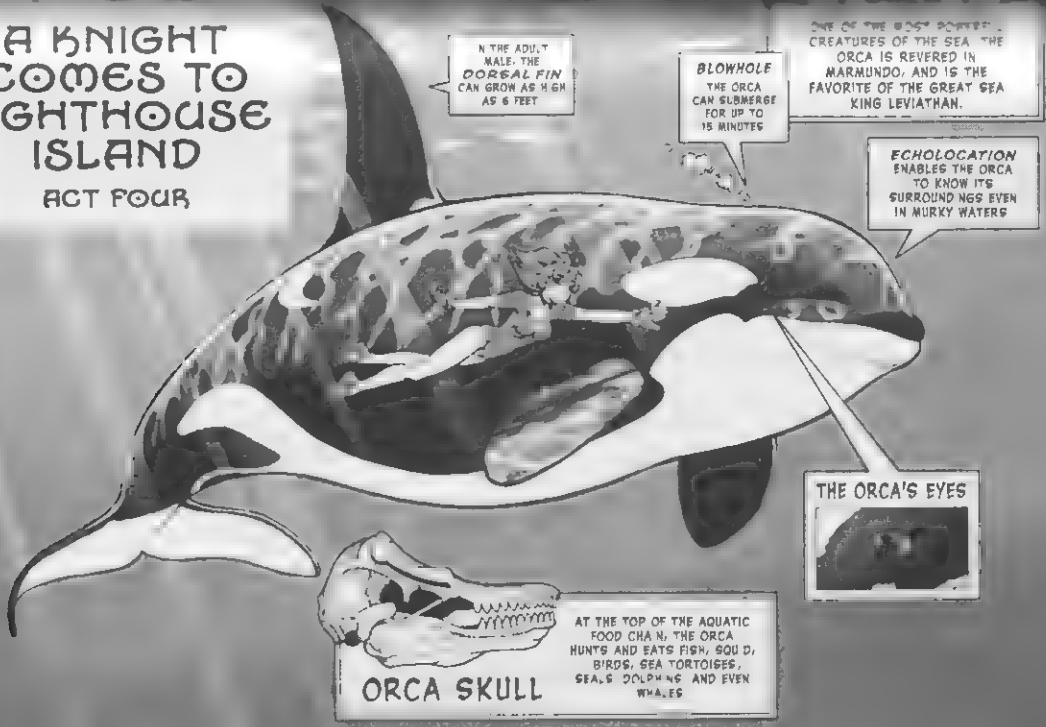
AS MY SQUIRE, YOU WOULD TAKE PART IN MY ADVENTURES-- AND LEARN ALL THESE THINGS.
THEN, ONE DAY, YOU TOO MAY BECOME A GREAT KNIGHT!
I HAVE GROWN FOND OF YOU.
WILL YOU BE MY SQUIRE, ASHIKA?
SO...
...SOME-DAY I'LL BECOME A KNIGHT!?
NOW, NOW-- THIS IS NO PLACE TO DANCE.

ALL RIGHT, THEN. WE WILL SWEAR AN OATH OF FEALTY.
"FEEL... TEA"?
I, RULIYA, TAKE YOU, ASHIKA, TO BE MY LOYAL SQUIRE.
I SWEAR TO NEVER LEAVE YOU BEHIND.
I LIKE YOU, TOO, LADY RULIYA.
BE QUIET, LITTLE ONE
AND YOU, ASHIKA--DO YOU SWEAR TO FOLLOW ME, RULIYA, WHEREVER MY JOURNEYS MAY TAKE ME?
TO HELP ME IN STORMY SEAS AND ON BATTLE-FIELDS?
AND TO ALWAYS REMAIN LOYAL TO YOUR MASTER?

ASHIKA WOULD NEVER IN HIS LIFE FORGET THIS MOMENT.

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT FOUR

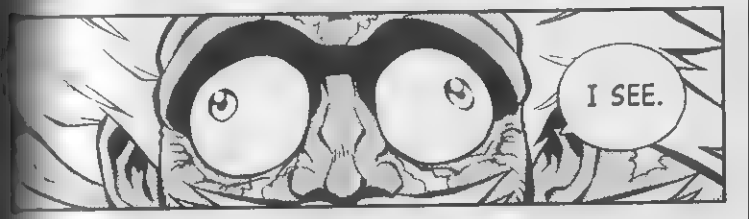

IN THE ADULT MALE, THE DORSAL FIN CAN GROW AS HIGH AS 6 FEET
BLOWHOLE
THE ORCA CAN SUBMERGE FOR UP TO 15 MINUTES
ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL CREATURES OF THE SEA, THE ORCA IS REVERED IN MARMUNDO, AND IS THE FAVORITE OF THE GREAT SEA KING LEVIATHAN.
ECHOLOCATION ENABLES THE ORCA TO KNOW ITS SURROUNDINGS EVEN IN MURKY WATERS
THE ORCA'S EYES
ORCA SKULL
AT THE TOP OF THE AQUATIC FOOD CHAIN, THE ORCA HUNTS AND EATS FISH, SQUID, BIRDS, SEA TORTOISES, SEALS, DOLPHINS AND EVEN WHALES

THE FOLLOWING MORNING, RULIYA AND ASHIKA RETURNED SAFELY TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND.
FATHER! FATHER! I'M BACK!
OH! LITTLE ONE... LADY RULIYA.
WHA?!
Rck!
SPICH
SPICH
FWIP
FWAP

FATHER, I'M SO-O-O SORRY...
AAAGH! MY TOGERA-TOGERA!
TH-THEN..
YOU SAW IT..? THE DRA-GON!?
IT BIT OFF THE END OF THE TOGERA-TOGERA .
GNOM

I'M SO GLAD YOU'VE COME BACK ALIVE!
I CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH, LADY RULIYA!
WATCHING THE FATHER AND SON EMBRACE, RULIYA FELT A PANG IN HER HEART.
FOR SHE KNEW THAT, HAVING MADE ASHIKA HER SQUIRE, THE BOY WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE HIS FATHER...
WOULD IT BE BETTER FOR HIM TO STAY WITH HIS FATHER ON THIS DESERT ISLAND?
NO!
A YOUNG BOY NEEDS *ADVENTURE!*
TOO M

AND SO RULIYA EXPLAINED TO ARRABARUS THAT SHE HAD MADE ASHIKA HER SQUIRE.
SHHHHFF

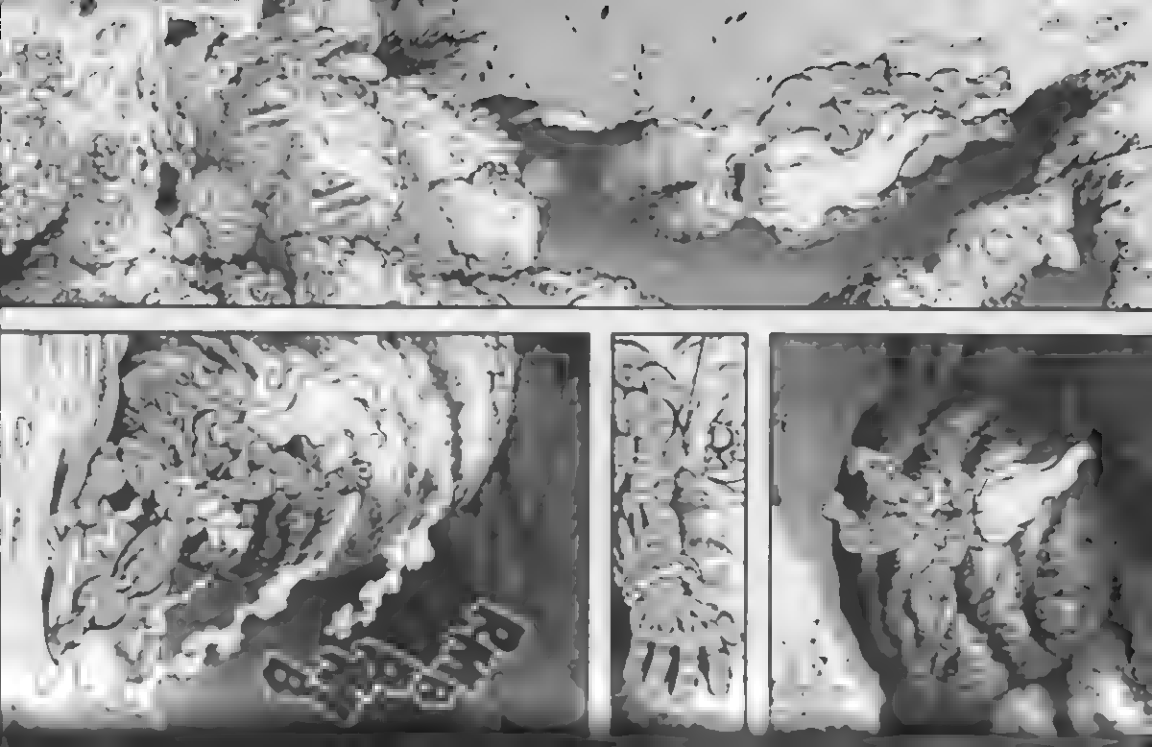

I SEE.

THEN LET US FEAST! I WILL GO CATCH SOME FISH...
FATHER, I'LL DO IT!

.....
RULIYA WAS TAKEN BY SURPRISE. SHE HAD EXPECTED ARRABARUS TO PROTEST

NO, THIS FEAST IS IN YOUR HONORI WAIT HERE
ALL RIGHT

SPLOSH



CAN YOU GET ME SOME SOAP?
WHAT IS "SOAP"?
LADY RULIYA... BEFORE YOU TAKE ASHIKA AS YOUR SQUIRE..
FIRST WE MUST SEE.

SCENE TEN:
THE BARNACLE KNIGHT COMETH!

WOW... MY FATHER CAN HOLD HIS BREATH FOR A *LONG* TIME...
WHERE IS LORD ARRABARUS?
HE'S STILL UNDER-WATER!
HE CAN'T BE! IT'S BEEN OVER TEN MINUTES!
MAYBE HE'S TALKING WITH A STAR-FISH?
!?
SPLOOSH

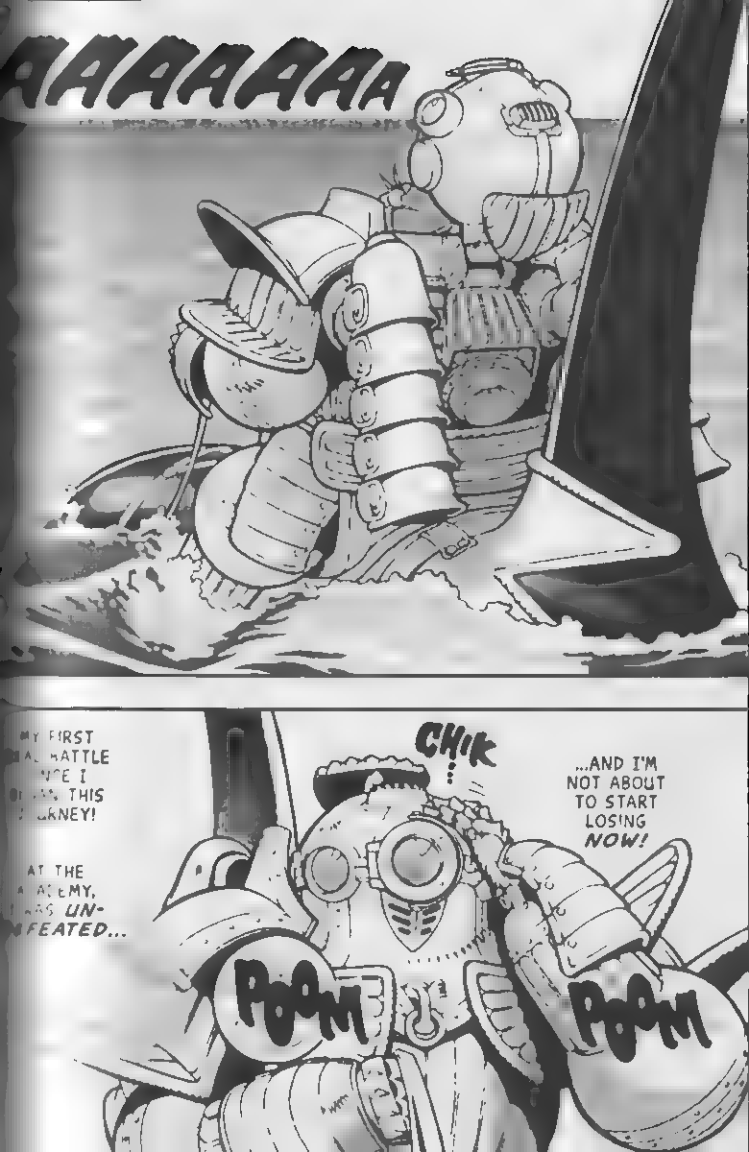
GWA HAHA HAHA!
BRUGGSH

WHAT THE---?
LADY RULIYA!
BREACHING
ONE OF THE ORCA'S PLAYFUL GESTURES
WHOA CLUB.
.....
SPLISH
THAT ORCA LOOKS JUST LIKE SPOT!
GWA HAHAH HUH?
WAHA HAHAA!
SPSSSH
I AM THE BARNACLE KNIGHT!
I HEARD TELL OF A BARNACLE KNIGHT VISITING THIS ISLAND AND I HAVE TRAVELED A THOUSAND LEAGUES TO FACE YOU!
LADY RULIYA, I CHALLENGE YOU TO A DUEL!

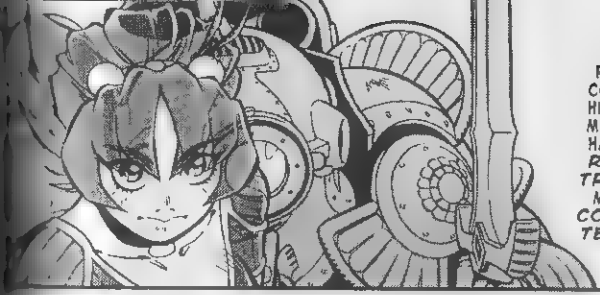
LORD ARRABARUS, WHAT IS WITH THAT OUTFIT?
WHO IS THIS "ARRABARUS" OF WHOM YOU SPEAK?! I AM THE BARNACLE KNIGHT!
FROM THE WAY HE
WAS NO ORDINARY
HEH-HM!!
WHY DO YOU HESITATE?! ARE YOU NAUGHT BUT A COWARDLY KNIGHT STILL GREEN FROM THE ACADEMY?
WAHA HAHA
IF YOU DO NOT ACCEPT MY CHALLENGE, I SHALL TAKE THE LITTLE ONE AS MY SLAVE!
NOOOO! I DON'T WANT TO BE A SLAVE TO THAT SCARY KNIGHT!

DOES
HE
MEAN...
...TO
TEST
ME!?
BR
RRM
M
FINE,
THEN!
I
ACCEPT
YOUR
CHAL-
LENGE!

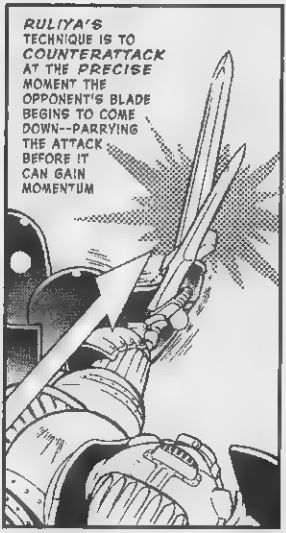
SHAAAA
LADY RULIYA!
NO FEAR, ASHIKA!
OBSERVE HOW A KNIGHT ENTERS BATTLE!

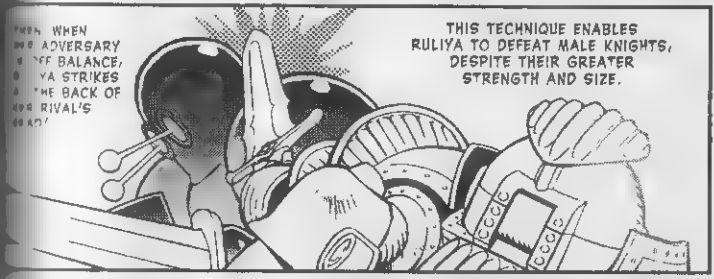

AAAAAAAA
MY FIRST
AL BATTLE
NCE I
THIS
UKNEY!
AT THE
ACADEMY,
WAS UN-
FEATED...
CHIK
...AND I'M
NOT ABOUT
TO START
LOSING
NOW!
POOM
POOM

SCENE ELEVEN:
SURFACE BATTLE!


RULIYA WAS CONFIDENT OF HER SWORDSMANSHIP. SHE HAD ENDURED *RIGOROUS TRAINING* TO MASTER THE *COUNTERING TECHNIQUE*.

MAX
THE KNIGHT'S *BASIC* ATTACK IS TO SWING *DOWNWARD* TOWARD THE OPPONENT, BUILDING GREAT POWER AND SPEED AT THE MOMENT OF IMPACT.


RULIYA'S TECHNIQUE IS TO *COUNTERATTACK* AT THE *PRECISE* MOMENT THE OPPONENT'S BLADE BEGINS TO COME DOWN--PARRYING THE ATTACK BEFORE IT CAN GAIN MOMENTUM

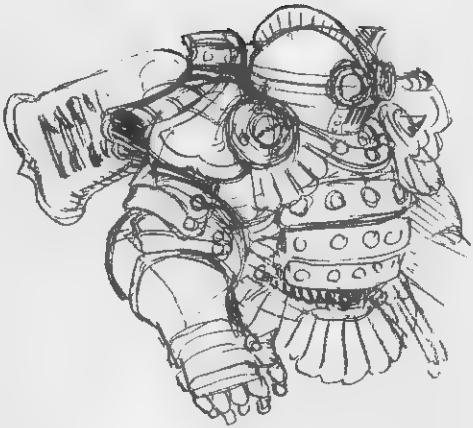

THIS TECHNIQUE ENABLES RULIYA TO DEFEAT MALE KNIGHTS, DESPITE THEIR GREATER STRENGTH AND SIZE.

SHLAAAA
FWAAASH
NOW!
SHA

TANG

NNN NGH!?
FWUP
URGH!
THSH
ZSH ZSH ZSH

I'VE NEVER FELT SUCH A POWERFUL ATTACK!
TWEE
TWEE
I WAS STILL KNOCKED BACK--EVEN THOUGH I STRUCK EARLY!
LORD ARRABARUS, YOU ARE A TRUE KNIGHT!
OH, LADY RULIYA!
PLEASE, DON'T LOSE!



A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT FIVE

WAHAHAHA! 'TIS A PLEASURE TO RIDE MY MOUNT AND SWING MY SWORD!
MY LONG PAST DAYS OF VALOR AND GLORY HAVE AT LAST RETURNED!
THE BARNACLE KNIGHT
(IN REALTY ARRABARUS THE LIGHTHOUSE KING

YOU SEEM TO BE WARMING TO YOUR WORK, OLD MAN!
SPISH
SPLISH
BUT, FOR THE REPUTATION OF MY FAMILY...
...I WILL NOT LOSE THIS BATTLE!
RUL YA OF PERLA
A KNIGHT FROM THE KINGDOM OF ENORME.
AGHIKA OF LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND
A YOUNG LAD WHO HAS NEWLY BECOME RUL YA'S SQUIRE
FATHER!
NISELLE
THE SOURCE OF THE LIGHTHOUSE'S BRILLIANCE

SCENE TWELVE

UNDERWATER BATTLE!

!?
TOOSH
SHWISH
I'M IN THE RIGHT! THE LAW-
I SWEAR BY THE HONOR OF THE ALA-MARI...
I WILL STRIKE HIM A DOZEN TIMES BEFORE HE CAN RE-TALIATE!
SKLEEEE
EEEE
I'M BELOW !?

KLANG
TANG
YAMAMAMA YOU PARRIED MY ATTACK! I'M IMPRESSED!
BANG*K
BUT...

WSH
CHOK
I FIGHT RIGHT-HANDED!
TAKING TO MY RIGHT SIDE WAS NOT WISE! NO NO!
SKRANG
YOWCH!
JUST BLOCKING THAT BLOW MADE MY HEAD SPIN!
TWEET TWEET
SWAH
AH!
SMWANG

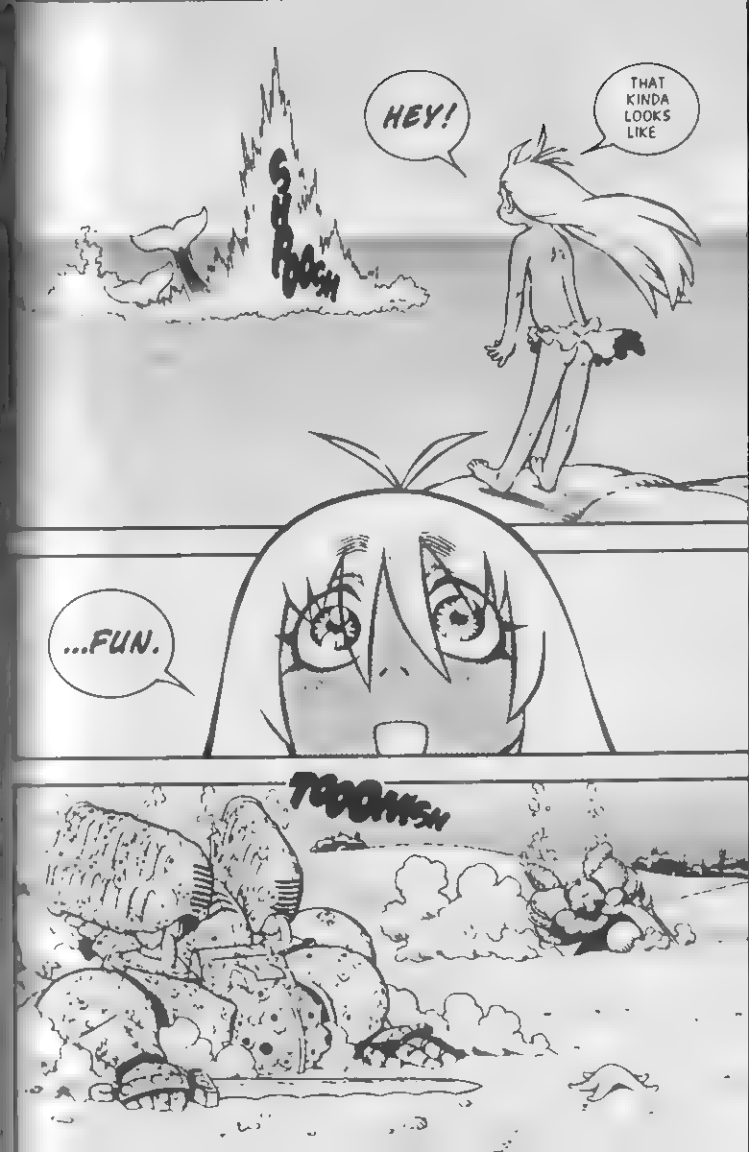
SHWEEE
KRANG
HAVING LOST THE FIRST STRIKE TO HIM I FIND MYSELF IN THE DEFENSIVE!
AND THOUGH I HATE TO ADMIT IT...HIS SKILLS AS A KNIGHT ARE GREATER!
LOOKS LIKE THE ACADEMY DIDN'T TEACH YOU THIS STYLE OF COMBAT!
WA HAHA HAHA-
GLAH!
SMR
!?

CLNK TNG TOK
HUH? HE'S SLOWED DOWN!?
THIS IS MY CHANCE! I HAVE TO TURN THE TIDE OF THIS BATTLE!
AAAAAAAAH! YOU MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE!
TAK
TAKA TAK

POK TOK
MMM GGH!
POK TOK
POK
MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE MEANIE!
KLANG
SKANG
SPANG
TANG
TING
SHOOM

SCENE THIRTEEN:
AIR BATTLE!

SKRAK
DRAT IT!

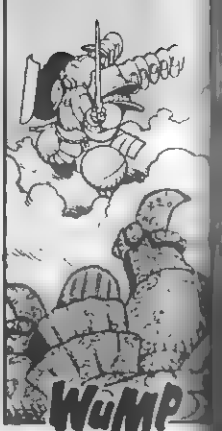

HEY!
THAT KINDA LOOKS LIKE
...FUN.

SCENE FOURTEEN:
SEA-BOTTOM BATTLE!

I HAD NO IDEA AN OCTOPUS HAD TAKEN UP RESIDENCE IN MY ARMOR!
GET OUTTA MY HOUSE!
FORGIVE ME OCTOPUS!
...BUT YOU'VE GOT A HOUSE-GUEST!
-PANT PANT- LOOKS LIKE I'VE MANAGED TO TURN THE TIDE OF BATTLE!
IN A FIGHT ON FOOT, I CAN USE MY TECHNIQUES TO THE FULLEST!

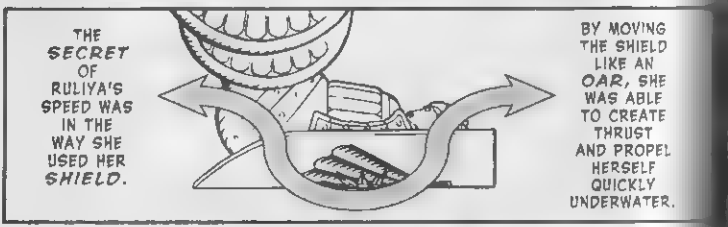
GRRR YAAAAA AAAH!
SKAK
TUSH
HUH?!
KA TANG
SWAK
FSSH

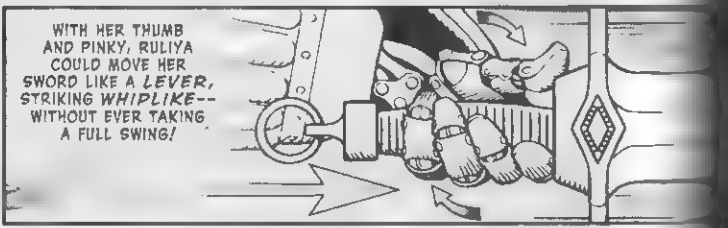
PWAK
TAK
FWAK
CHAK


WUMP

HEAVY ARMOR UNDERWATER
...AND STILL SHE MOVES SO QUICKLY!

MY TECHNIQUE IS WORKING!
BUT I MUSTN'T GET OVERCONFIDENT "HEART OF ICE AND BODY OF FIRE"!


THE SECRET OF RULIYA'S SPEED WAS IN THE WAY SHE USED HER SHIELD.
BY MOVING THE SHIELD LIKE AN OAR, SHE WAS ABLE TO CREATE THRUST AND PROPEL HERSELF QUICKLY UNDERWATER.


WITH HER THUMB AND PINKY, RULIYA COULD MOVE HER SWORD LIKE A LEVER, STRIKING WHIPLIKE-- WITHOUT EVER TAKING A FULL SWING!

IN ANY BATTLE BETWEEN AQUA KNIGHTS, THE WATER ARMOR'S WEAK POINTS ARE THE PRIME TARGETS.
WATER ARMOR WEAK POINTS
FACE PORT
THE WEAKEST POINT ON THE ARMOR
GAUNTLET
THE SECOND WEAKEST POINT AFTER THE FACE PORT
SECTIONS
RELATIVELY THIN ARMOR. IF CRACKED, THE INTERIOR CAN QUICKLY FLOOD AND
RELEASE BOLT
DAMAGE TO THE RELEASE BOLT BETWEEN THE LEGS WOULD CAUSE THE ARMOR TO OPEN-- A TREMENDOUS INSULT
RULIYA'S TARGET WAS...
THE GAUNTLET!
THE GAUNTLET IS A DELICATE SYSTEM WHICH MAGNIFIES THE MOVEMENTS OF THE KNIGHT'S HANDS.
BY DESTROYING THIS AREA, ONE CAN DISABLE A KNIGHT WITHOUT CAUSING INJURY.
LORD ARRA-HARUS!
THE THREE THINGS I HATE MOST IN THIS WORLD ARE...

SKRAK
WAK
TAK
LIGHTNING!
UNFAIR CONDUCT!
FW
AND... MOST OF ALL
SKLA TANG
I'LL BLOCK FIRST TWO A AND COUNT THE THR

DEFEAT!
SMASH
PWONG
FSHSHSH
WHAT!?
DID HE DIVINE MY PLAN!?
BY THE TAIL OF THE GREAT WANTA!
WHAT IS THAT!?
HUH!?

RMBRRB

RMBRMB
W-W-WHAT IS THAT!?

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT SIX

VEEEEEE

YEEMMM

RMBRMTBRMTB
GROOSH

WEEEMM
MOBILE FORTRESS
ZYFORT

SCENE FIFTEEN:
THE UNINVITED

IT'S BEEN A YEAR...
SHWIP
...SINCE I'VE VISITED THE UNCIVILIZED LAND OF MARMUNDO
SHWIP
...AND I HAVE FINALLY FOUND WHAT I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR!
SHWA AAM

THE FINAL INGREDIENT FOR THE ELIXIR OF LIFE!
HA HA HA HA
IT'S BEEN HARD, MASTER AL...
WANDERING GENIUS
ALCANTARA
A NOBLEMAN FROM THE ANTIPODES, THE UNKNOWN LANDS. AN INVENTOR
ZYCROW
ALCANTARA'S MINION
ZYKEY
ALCANTARA'S MINION

SQUEEEEE
KEH HEH HEH HEH...
SO, MASTER-- SHALL WE CAPTURE THE SPHERE OF LIGHT FROM THAT LIGHTHOUSE? GAHHHH...
ZYKEY!
Y-YES SIR...
SKRR
TAK
SHWEEEEP
IT'S BEAUTI-FUL...
AHHHHH

THE CIRCLE IS TRULY THE PERFECT FORM.
AND THE COMPASS! SUCH A SIMPLE TOOL-- YET ALSO PERFECT.
BUT YOU, ZYCROW...
GRRRR
YAAH!
...WHY MUST YOU BE SO UGLY!?
SHALAK
SHALAK
SHALAK
YOU ARE AS FAR FROM PERFECTION AS POSSIBLE!
GYA AAH!

AAAH
I AM NOTHING BUT YOUR LOWLY SERVANT...
SLRRRP
MASTER AL SOMEONE BELOW
LOOKS TO BE A CHILD
..WHO KNOWS NOT THE VALUE OF THINGS!
THANK YOU
ALCANTARA'S DECORUM MUST ALWAYS BE IMPECCABLE-- EVEN WHEN CONFRONTING A SAVAGE...
BESIDES... I LIKE CHILDREN.
HEH HEH

CHILD! TELL ME YOUR NAME!

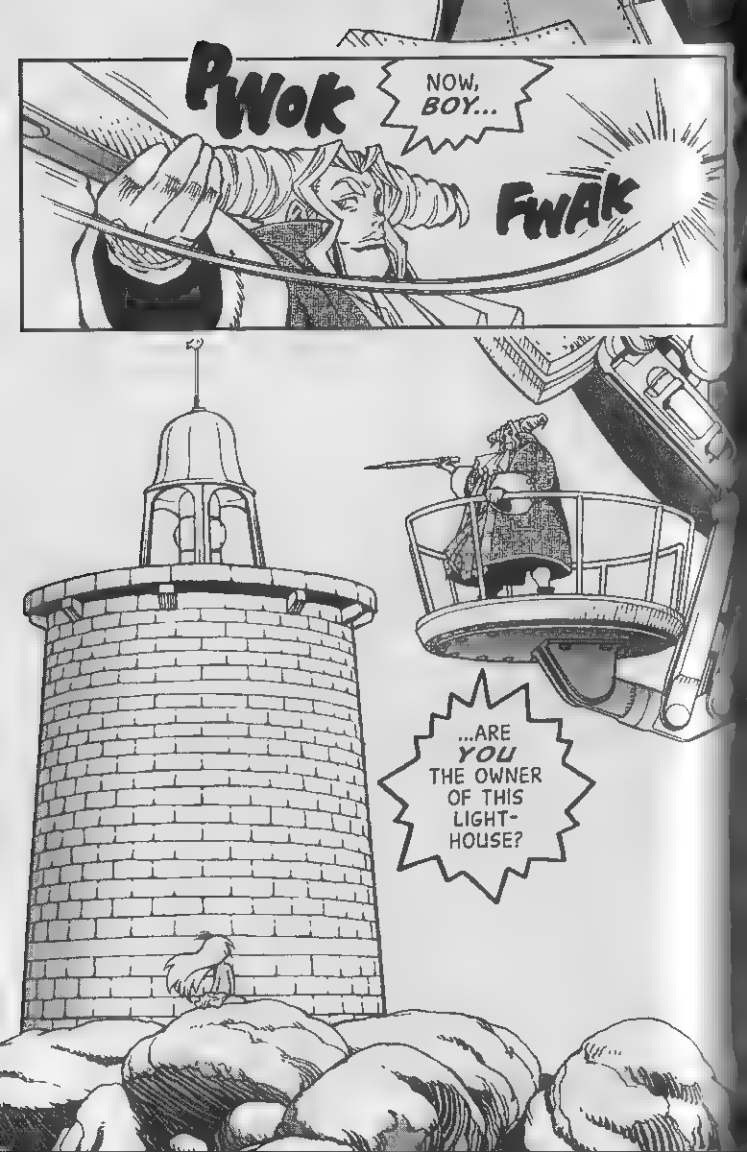
A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT SEVEN

MEALS
IN MARMUNDO, THE PRINCIPLE FOODS ARE FISH AND FRUITS SINCE LANDMASS IS MINIMAL; VEGETABLES AND MEATS ARE SCARCE AND PRECIOUS
WHALES ARE CONSIDERED HOLY CREATURES AND ARE ONLY EATEN DURING FUNERALS. SHELLFISH ON THE OTHER HAND, ARE CONSIDERED SERVANTS OF EVIL--AND IT IS TABOO TO FEAST UPON THEM

MY NAME IS ALCAN-TARA.

I'M ASHIKA!
BINK
BINK
FEH! THOSE EYES, SHINING WITH INNOCENCE...
PROOF THAT HIS HEAD IS EMPTY!
TOK
FWP
FWP
SHOOO


PWOK
NOW, BOY...
FWAK
...ARE YOU THE OWNER OF THIS LIGHT-HOUSE?

THE KING OF THIS ISLAND IS MY FATHER.
OH?
AND WHERE IS YOUR FATHER?
CHMP
HE HASN'T COME BACK SINCE HE WENT TO SEA TO CATCH FISH.
GULP
SO HE IS LOST AT SEA, EH...?
CHMP CHMP
CATCH.
OH!
FISHING LINE
WA HA HA HA HA HAA!
PWNG
PWNG
PWNG
PWNG
CHOMP
FWSH
!?

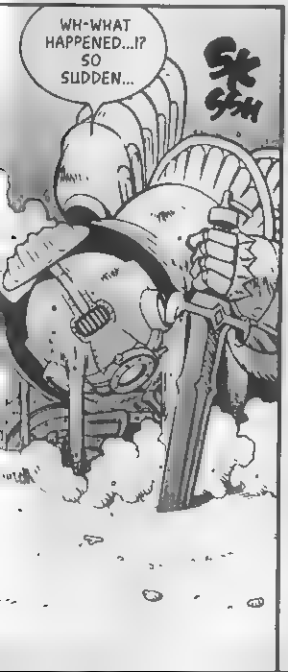
WELL, THAT MAKES THINGS SIMPLER.
ZYCROW!
OKAA AAAY!
REE REE
SHWANK
SHAAAA

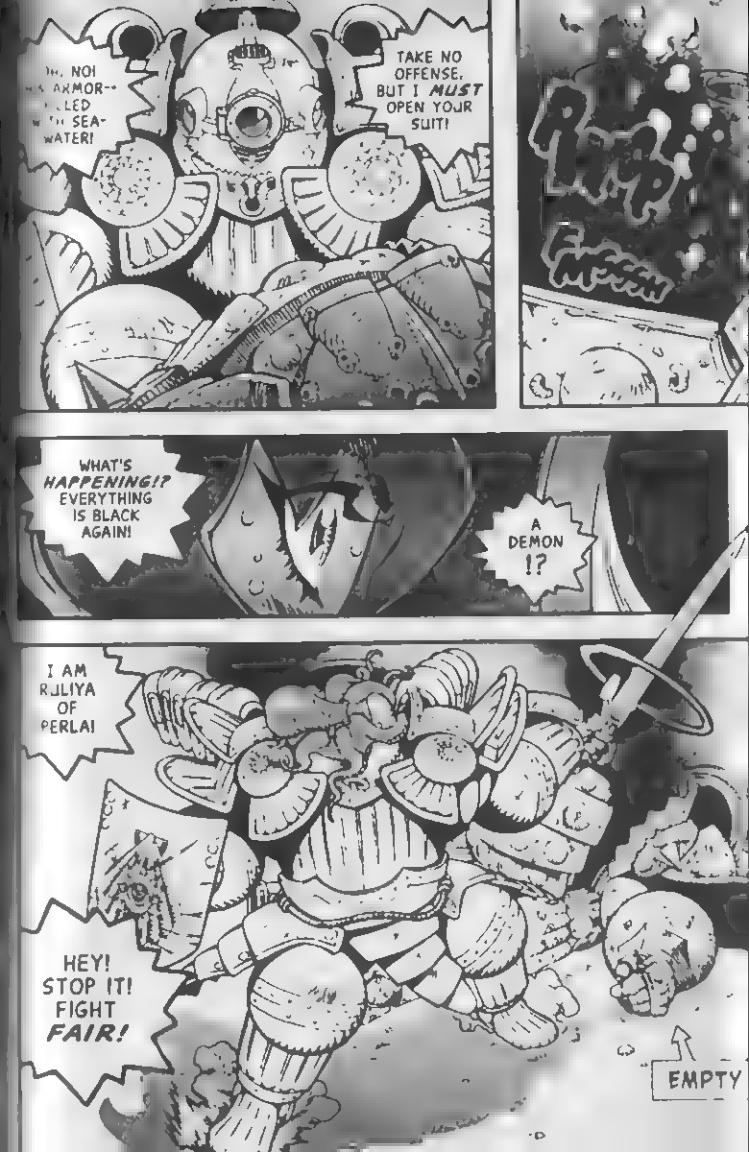
I CLAIM THIS LAND IN THE NAME OF THE GREAT ALCANTARA!
I SHALL CALL THIS PLACE... ZYLAND!
AND YOU, BOY-- I LIKE YOU...!

JANG
YEEE?
KA SKLIK
KEH HEH HEH...
OWW! THIS HURTS!
I GIVE YOU PERMISSION TO BECOME MY PET!
HA HA HA HA HA!
AS LONG AS YOU CONTINUE TO AMUSE ME, I SHALL KEEP YOU AT MY SIDE!
A LIFE OF LUXURY IS YOURS!
GNGGH
UNH
SKUK
FOOP
HEE HEE

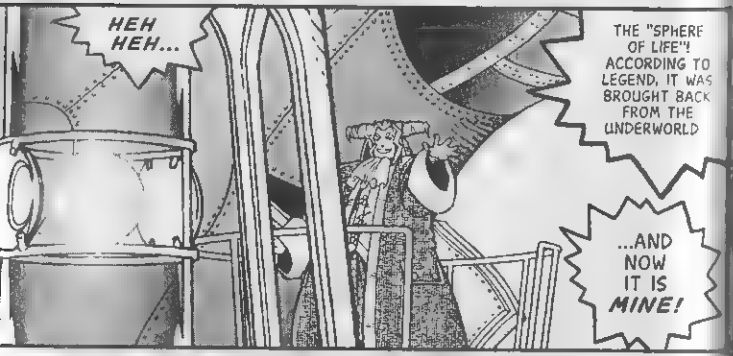
AHH...
PLP-PLP
POOR THING...
PERFECT... IT'S PERFECT!
THE PERFECT INVASION. THIS IS TRULY ALCANTARA.
SO BEAUTIFUL IT IS, MY LIFE...
MY HAPPINESS, I OFFER TO THE GODS OF MACHINE SCIENCE.
AHHHH

SCENE SIXTEEN:
RULIYA'S FAILURE!




TAKE NO OFFENSE, BUT I MUST OPEN YOUR SUIT!
RIIP!
FWOOSH
WHAT'S HAPPENING!? EVERYTHING IS BLACK AGAIN!
A DEMON !?
I AM RULIYA OF PERLA!
HEY! STOP IT! FIGHT FAIR!
EMPTY

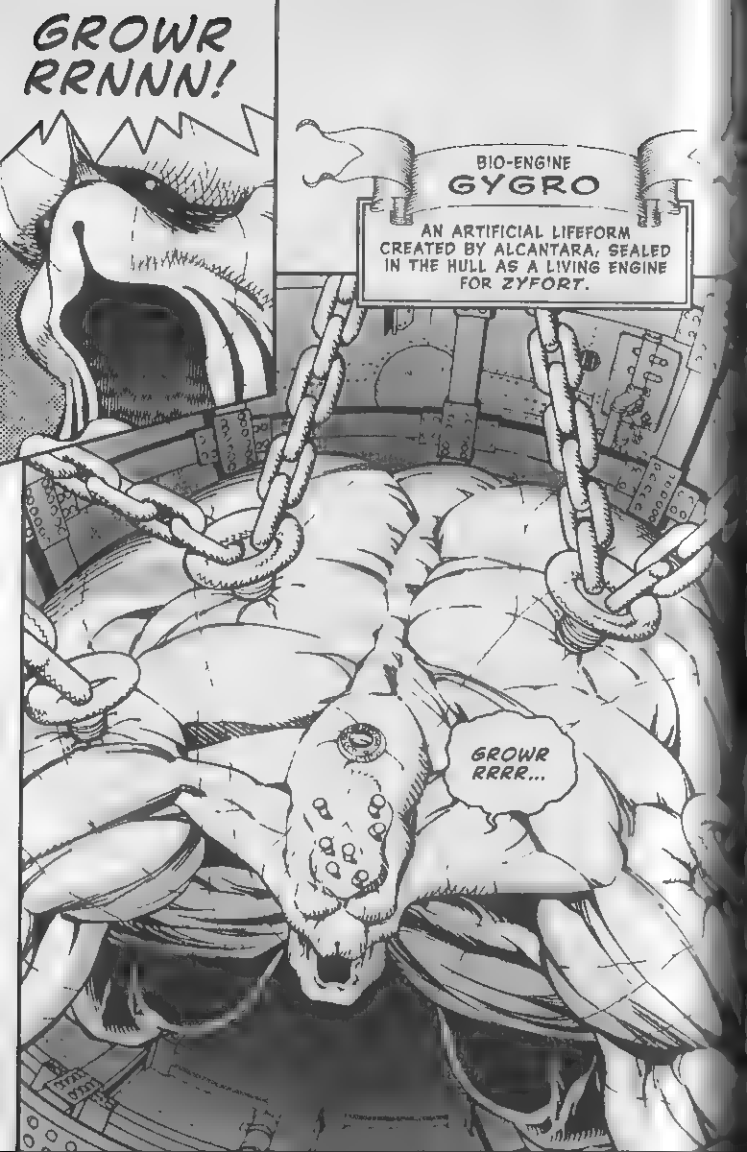
SCENE SEVENTEEN:
THE WRATH OF THE LIGHTHOUSE KING!



I AM ARRABARUS, THE KING OF LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND!
GRRM
LEAVE THIS LAND, FOREIGNER!
AND NEVER RETURN!
YOU ARE BUT A SAVAGE WHO KNOWS NOT THE VALUE OF THINGS!
IN YOUR IGNORANCE, YOU DO NOT REALIZE WHAT THE GLOWING SPHERE BEING USED FOR YOUR WORTHLESS LIGHTHOUSE TRULY IS, DO YOU!? DO YOU?!

THAT IS MY WIFE, NISELLE!
FW OOOOHH
SHEEOOOOOOOO
FW OOOO
"WIFE"...
ARE YOU MAD...?
GYGRO!

ZOOP
ZOOP
FSH
SLOW


GROWR RRNNN!
BIO-ENGINE
GYGRO
AN ARTIFICIAL LIFEFORM CREATED BY ALCANTARA, SEALED IN THE HULL AS A LIVING ENGINE FOR ZYFORT.
GROWR RRRR...

THE SECRET OF LIFE ITSELF-- HERE IN THIS LIGHT!
IF I CAN UNRAVEL ITS MYSTERIES, I CAN RID THE WORLD OF SICKNESS AND DEATH!
HA HA HA!
GIVE IT TO ME--FOR THE GOOD OF MANKIND, I TELL YOU!
NNNGH..
SKRRK
KRNCH
SKRMP
KEH HEH.
TOING
KRK
SO YUMMY...
SKGSH
WELL? CHEER FOR ME! COME ON!
FWINK
SHTOOSH
YAAA AH!?

GYA AAAA AA!?
IMPOSSIBLE! AM I TO FALL TO MY DEATH WITH MY PANTS DOWN!?
VEEEEM
I WON'T ACCEPT THIS! I WON'T! I WON'T!
THAT'S IT!
IF I LAND ON THAT SHACK, IT WILL BREAK MY FALL!
OH, GOD!
SLAMASH
KUNK
TUNK

KA
SHWANG
PHEW! I'M SAVED.
CHOMP
GROOOO OOOOWRR !?
SHAA

BWAH
SHEEEOOP
AAAAAH!
SMOP
KA KRESH
WAAAAH!
M-MA-MASTER!
!!

GA ROO OO!
FWAK
FWAK
C-CALM DOWN, GYGRO!
GA ROO OO!
SH WOOM
EEEK!
SKRAGH

RMB RMB
RMB

THE LIGHT-HOUSE!

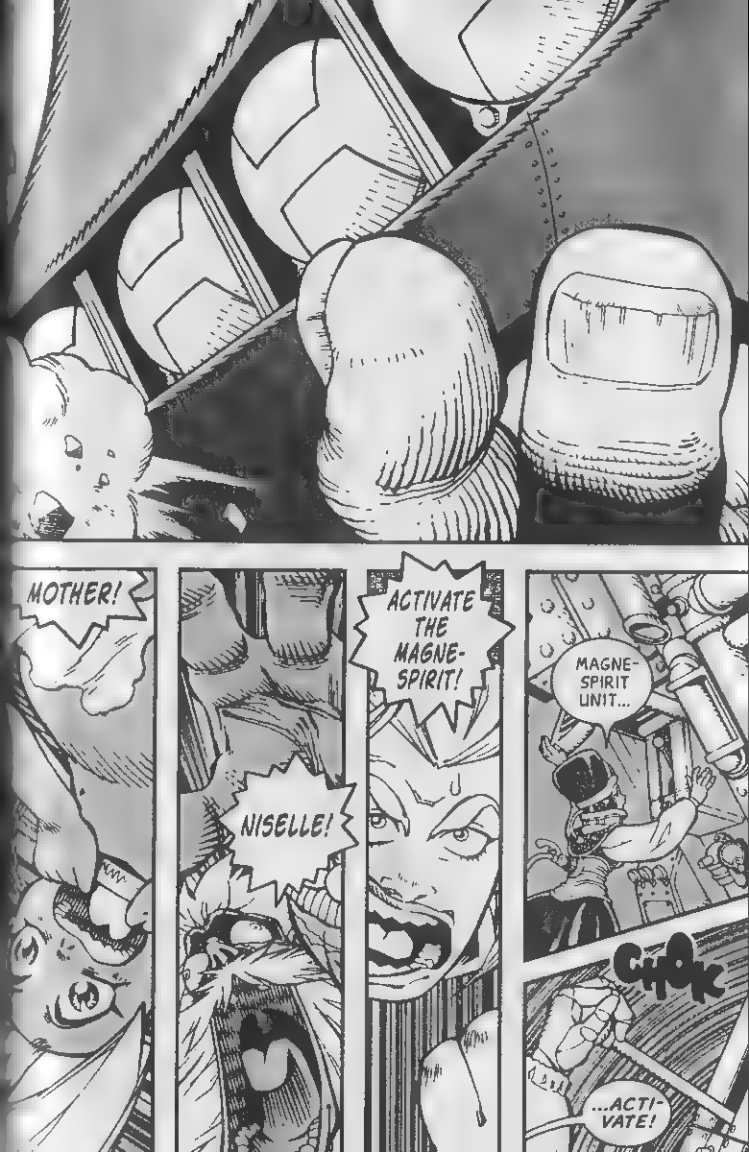
NOO OO!
KRSH TSH
KRK KRK KRK
ARRR RGH!
KRK
POP
KRNCH SPANG
!?
FATHER!

ZYKEY, CAN YOU HEAR ME!?
VEEEEEM
MASTER AL, YOU'RE SAFE!
MASTER AL, WE HAD BEST RETREAT!
URRGH! I GUESS BUILDING ZYLAND WILL HAVE TO WAIT!
BUT I WILL HAVE THAT SPHERE OF LIGHT! I WILL!
ACTIVATE THE MAGNESPIRIT!

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT EIGHT

SCENE EIGHTEEN:
PARADISE LOST


MOTHER!
NISELLE!
ACTIVATE THE MAGNE-SPIRIT!
MAGNE-SPIRIT UNIT...
CLICK
...ACTI-VATE!

CHA KONK
JI...
ZMMM
JI-
JI...
JIJ
JIK!
SKRSHOOM
JIK!!
SHRP
JIK!
JIK!!
SHRP
SHRP

KLANG
WANG
KA-THNG
THERE'S NO GLORY IN THIS!
TCH TCH
TO USE THESE MYSTICAL CREATURES-- IT GOES AGAINST EVERYTHING I BELIEVE!
BUT I HAVE NO CHOICE!
GO, MAGNE-SPIRITS! FETCH ME THAT BALL OF LIGHT!
JIKI JIKI JIKI!
SKRP
JIKI...

SKRK
KRSH
SKLU
SSH
ZYKEY, THE LIGHT SPHERE--IT'S ABOUT TO FALL!
NO GOOD, LORD AL!
THAT SPHERE IS COMPOSED OF ANTI-MAGNESPIRIT MATERIAL!
THE MAGNE-SPIRITS CAN'T GRAB AHOLD OF IT!

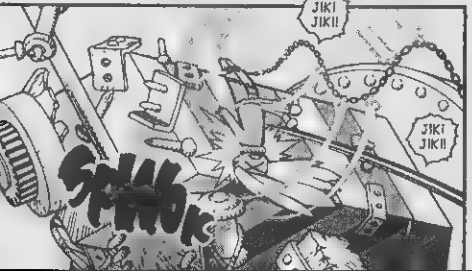
KE-
HEH!
PWNG
TANG
KEH
HEH!
FOOM
TIME
FOR...
FUP
SLUP
SUCKER
HAND!
KER-
SLAP

ATMOSPHERE
VACUUM
OBJECT
SUCKER HAND
BY BENDING HIS WET PALM INTO A CONCAVE CONFIGURATION, ZYCROW CREATES A VACUUM BETWEEN HIS HAND AND THE OBJECT. HE'S QUITE PROUD OF THIS SPECIAL TECHNIQUE

AI EEE EE!
SHWOOOM

SHWEEEE

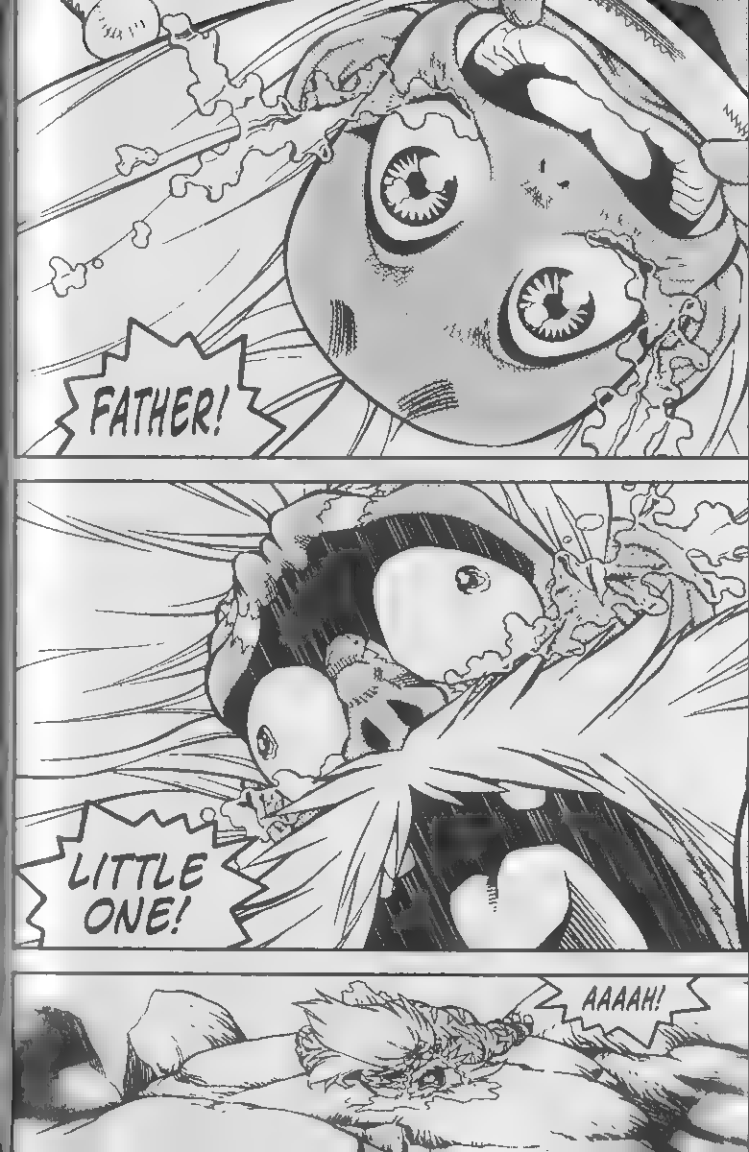
KEKEH!
SHEEP

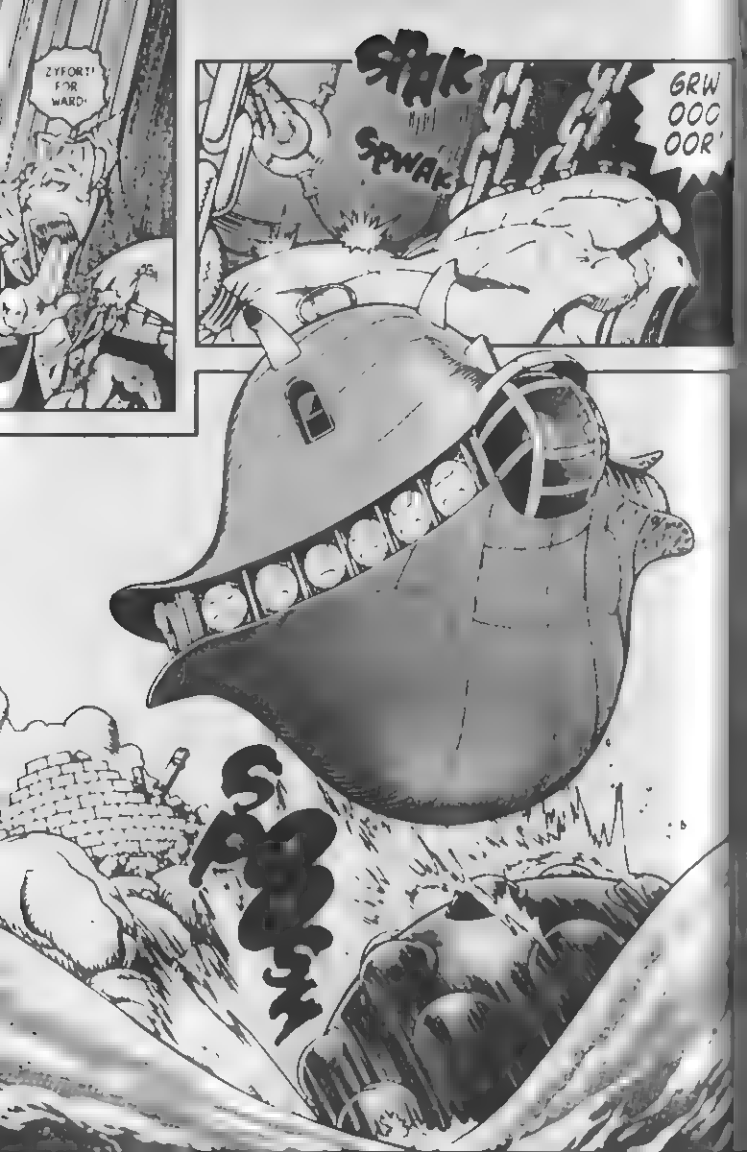

JIKI JIKI!
JIKI JIKI!
SHAK SHAK

TOOOP

FWIP
FWUP
AHH!
WELL DONE, ZYCROW!
POOH!
YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON ZYCROW, SIRE!
LOVELY.
THE SPHERE IS THE PERFECT FORM..
BUT...
GLRGH
WHY MUST YOU ALWAYS BE SO DISGUSTING!?
GYAAA AAH!
KAWHAM

KRNK
KA TNK IC
WuMP TuNk

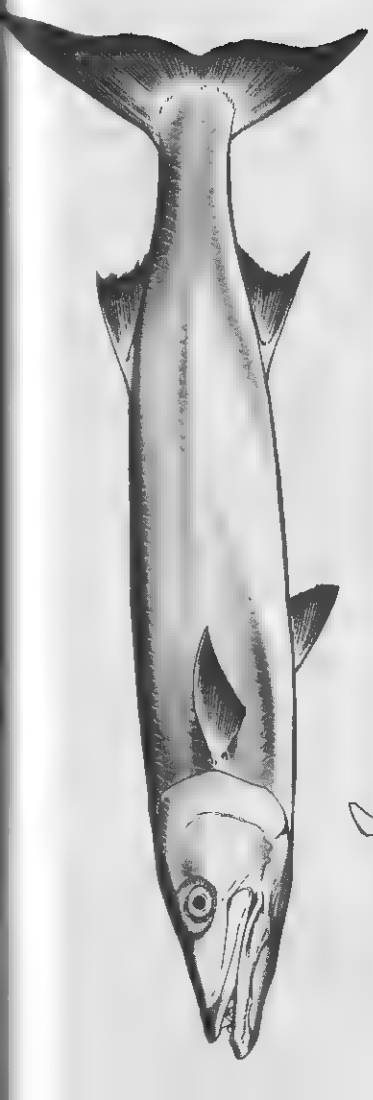

FATHER!
LITTLE ONE!
AAAAH!


ZYFORT! FOR WARD!
SPWAK
GRW OOO OOR'

RMB
RMB
RMB
SHOW YOURSELF AND FIGHT!
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB

SCENE NINETEEN:
NIGHTFALL

WHAF DIF..!?
CHRRMF
SAA SHAAAA AAAAA
LORD ARRA-BARUS!



A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT NINE

LORD ARRA-BARUS!

EVERY JOINT IN HIS BODY IS DIS-LOCATED!
SPUP
L-L-LADY RU-RULIYA
I...I'VE FAILED...
TICHHA TICH
IT'S AS IF HE'S AGED DECADES SINCE I LAST SAW HIM !
WHAT COULD HAVE HAP-PENED!?
SPLAT

FORGIVE ME, LORD ARRA-BARUS.
IF I HADN'T BEEN DISTRACTED BY THAT OCTOPUS..
...MAYBE THIS WOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED..
NO, I'M SURE THE HEAVENS HAVE BROUGHT YOU TO THIS ISLAND FOR A *REASON*--TO *REPLACE* THE LIGHTHOUSE KING.
PLEASE WILL YOU SAVE *NISELLE* AND THE *LITTLE ONE* FROM THE EVIL CLUTCHES OF THAT FOREIGNER?
FOK
TWOK
DON'T TALK LIKE THAT!
WE WILL DON OUR ARMOR AND RIDE *TOGETHER* TO DEFEAT THAT HORRIBLE MAN!
AHH, LADY RULIYA--YOUR SPIRIT IS THAT OF *LADY EVELY*.
WITH TRAINING, YOU ARE SURE TO BECOME A KNIGHT WHO WILL SURPASS EVEN YOUR MOTHER.
MY MOTHER ?

YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!
SO, LORD ARRABARUS, YOU MUST BE A KNIGHT OF SOME FAME YOURSELF!
I ONCE.. FOUGHT ALONGSIDE YOUR FATHER, LORD ALURAC.
FORGIVE ME... FOR HIDING THIS FROM YOU
THE TWELVE KNIGHTS OF NEPTUNE...
..I WAS ONE OF THEM, YOU SEE
BUT I CAST ASIDE MY DUTIES AS A KNIGHT
...AND BETRAYED MY FRIEND AND KING...
FOR MY BELOVED WIFE, NISELLE...
.....

OH...
THE SUN IS SETTING..
...NIGHT-FALL...
THE DARKNESS... IS COMING...

FWMP
LORD ARRABARUS..?
TMP TMP
HYEEEH!
TCH TCH
LORD ARRA-BARUS ?
UH UH UH
AI EEE EE!
EEEEEH!
EEEEEH!

AGGH!
FWISH
UNGH!
FWISH
GO AWAY!
GET AWAY FROM ME!
B-BUT THERE'S
THERE'S NOTHING THERE!
HYEE EEE!

AGH!
NGH!
AAAR RRGH!
BUT THERE'S NOTHING
THERE
RULIYA WANTED TO CRY.
SHE FELT LIKE A CHILD AGAIN ALL ALONE.
HER FINGERS WERE NUMB AND HER KNEES WEAK
FEAR OF THE DARK BEGAN TO WELL UP FILLING HER HEART WITH A TOO FAMILIAR SENSE OF DESPAIR

SHIKKA SHAKKA
AAAH!
NNNH!
JNGH!
LIGHT!
FWSH
I NEED MY LAMP!
KANG TANG
-PHEW-
CHK CHK
CHK
FOOSH
TWIP

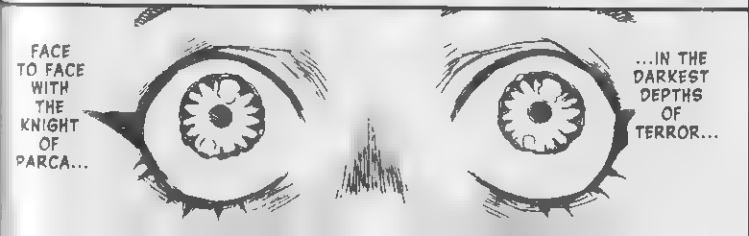
YEE EE!
LORD ARRABARUS..
LADY RUIYA... IT'S TIME WE SAID OUR FAREWELLS...
WHAT?
FWSSSSSHHH
THAT GLOW...
...IS IT FIREFLIES? PHOSPHOR-ESCENT SQUID?
TAKE A GOOD LOOK.

SHA SAA SAA
SHAA
SAAAA
NO!
F-F-FACES !?
THEY'VE COME FOR ME..
POOSH
SPSH

SHHHAAAAAAAAAA
AAAA AAH!
splsh
spssssh
SHAAA

SHA
AA

SCENE TWENTY:
THE KNIGHT OF PARCA



...RULIYA BURST OUT LAUGHING!
HAHA HAHAA HAHA!
WHAT A *RUDE* WOMAN.
ARE WE TAKING *HER* WITH US, TOO?
THE HUMAN IS AFRAID.
LEAVE HER BE
TEK KEK
SKK
FWI
OOOM

I AM TAGMEC, KNIGHT OF PARCA.
WE HAVE COME FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE KING ARRABARUS...IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR CONTRACT...
YOU ARE WELL MET, OLD FRIEND.
THE SANDS OF MY HOURGLASS HAVE COME TO AN END... I AM READY FOR THE UNDERWORLD...
OH, NO! THE GRIM REAPER IS GOING TO TAKE LORD ARRABARUS TO PARCA!
Ooo
HA!
HA HA...
HA HA...
HA HA...
OH!

WAIT, LORD ARRA-BARUS!
IF YOU GO, WHAT WILL BECOME OF ASHIKA!? AND THE LIGHT-HOUSE!?
THIS BODY HAS MET DEATH ONCE BEFORE
I MADE A PACT WITH THE KING OF PARCA, WHO LET ME STAY HERE...

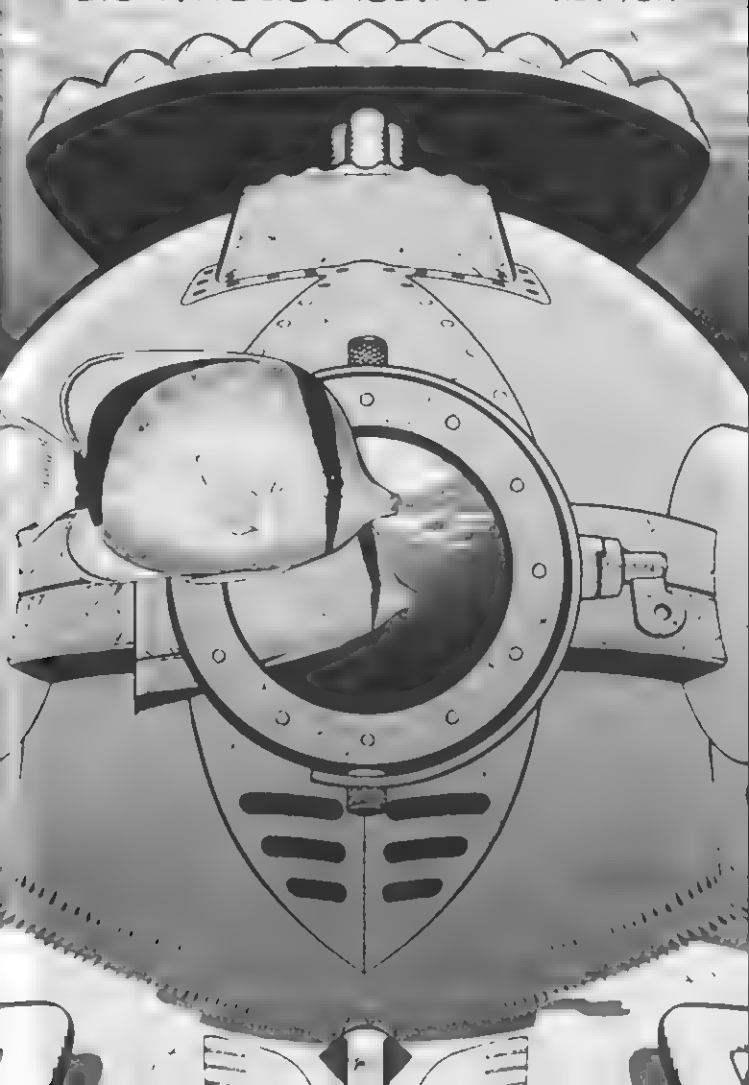
...WITH THE LIGHT OF LIFE!
NO!
PLEASE... TELL ASHIKA NOT TO LET THAT LIGHT DIE...
THAT IS MY LAST REQUEST...
TELL HIM YOUR-SELF!
CHI

IN THE NAME OF MAGNA PRIMERO...
I WILL NOT LET YOU BE TAKEN!
SHARASH
IF THE GODS LED ME TO YOUR ISLAND
THIS WAS MEANT TO BE!
YOUNG WOMAN, I AM IMPRESSED WITH YOUR COURAGE. YOU CONQUER YOUR FEAR AND STAND BEFORE ME...
...BUT YOU POINT YOUR BLADE AT THE WRONG OPPONENT. BONE...

NO! YOU
ARE
MY
ENEMY!

A KNIGHT COMES TO LIGHTHOUSE ISLAND

ACT TEN



I WILL VANQUISH YOU!
WHOOSH

WHAT... !?
NO STRENGTH IN MY LEGS ..!
FWNK
KA-SRUSH

HA HA HA
HA HA
HA HA
HA HA
HA HA
.....
HOW COULD MY BODY GIVE OUT AT A TIME LIKE THIS!?
BR BL!
GR BL!
BOOM
EEK!
SPLASH

KOFF!
KOFF!
I...I AM NOT AFRAID OF YOU!
HFF... UFF...
IF I HAD MY ARMOR... IF WE FOUGHT JUSTLY...
...I WOULD BE CERTAIN OF VICTORY!
KOFF!
KNOW THIS...
I AM NOT YOUR ENEMY.
TO YOU, I AM..
A FRIEND.
BONE.
BRRR

I SHALL FORGIVE YOUR *RUDE* AND HASTY *ACTIONS*, FOR YOU LACK *WORLDLY KNOWLEDGE*.
YOUNG WOMAN...I DO NOT KNOW WHAT *FATE* AWAITS YOU ON YOUR *JOURNEYS*.
NOR CAN I TELL YOU WHAT *STARS* YOU WERE BORN *UNDER*... OR WHO OR WHAT HAS PLACED YOU ON YOUR *DESTINED PATH*.
BUT OUR MEETING TONIGHT IS *ALSO* SOMETHING THAT THE GODS HAVE *ORDAINED*.
LISTEN WELL...

LIVING BEINGS, SUCH AS YOURSELF, FEAR AND HATE DEATH.
BUT LIFE CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT DEATH...
...FOR THEY ARE TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN.
THIS IS THE SHAPE OF THE WORLD—AS THE GODS MEANT IT TO BE. BONE.
A KING MAKES THE LAWS IN THE WORLD OF THE LIVING...
...AND SO IT MUST BE IN THE WORLD OF THE DEAD.
THE SPHERE OF LIGHT THE FOREIGNER STOLE FROM THE LIGHTHOUSE...
... THAT IS THE VERY SYMBOL OF THE COVENANT BETWEEN THE LIVING AND THE DEAD!

THE FOREIGNER WILL USE THE SPHERE OF LIGHT TO BEND THE LAWS OF KINGS AND GODS.
YOU MUST NOT ALLOW THAT TO HAPPEN! BONE.
ME?!
WHY NOT STOP HIM YOURSELF!?
GO AND TAKE THE SOUL OF THAT FOREIGNER WITH YOUR GIANT SCYTHE!
.....
LADY RULIYA...
...THOSE [illegible] THE WORDS OF A KNIGHT.
KREEK

YOU FORGET THAT TAGMEC IS A KNIGHT...
AND SWORN TO UPHOLD A KNIGHT'S LAWS!
HOW COULD HE TAKE THE LIFE OF ONE WHO HAS NO REASON TO DIE?
LORD ARRABARUS
.....
SHHH
IT IS ALL RIGHT. BONE.
YOUNG WOMAN... RULIYA, WAS IT?
SINCE I BELIEVE IT WAS FATE THAT WE MET HERE TONIGHT...
...I GIVE YOU THIS.

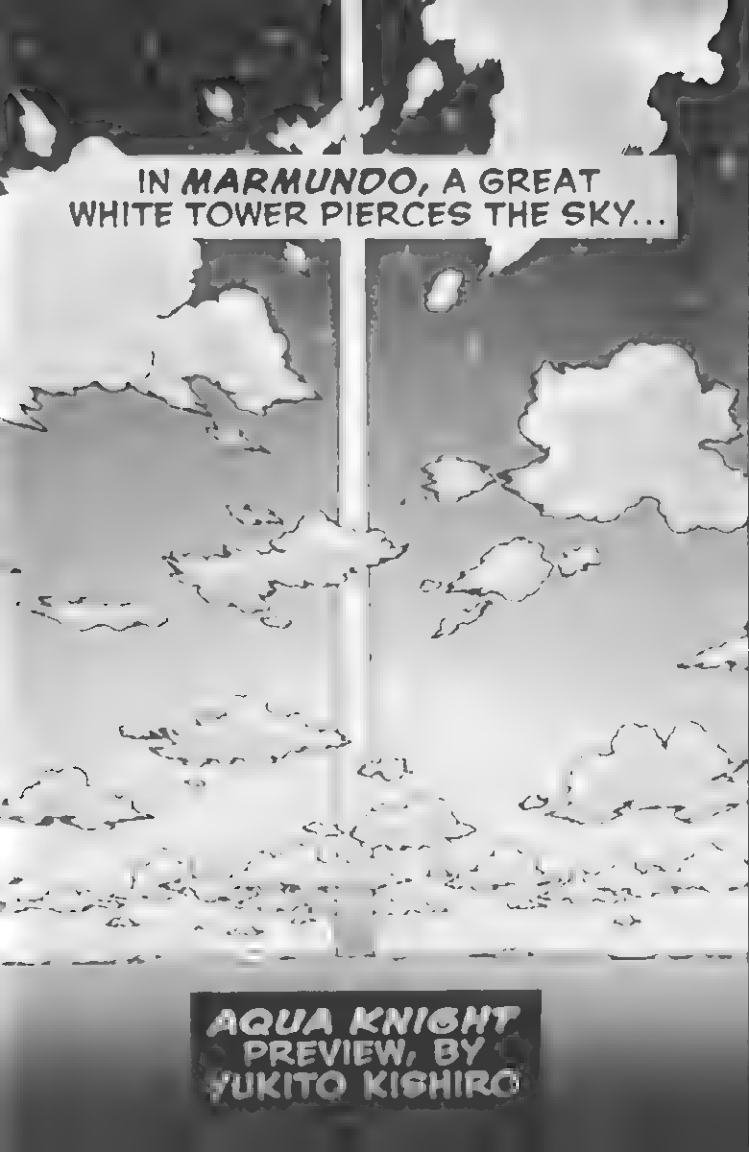
MUERTO-GARA—
THE IRON CLAW OF THE DEAD.
UH IF I HAVE A CHOICE...
COULD I HAVE THAT SCYTHE INSTEAD?
NO

THE SWORD OF PARCA WILL CUT ANY METAL FORGED IN THE WORLD OF THE LIVING.
AND IF YOU DRIVE THAT BLADE INTO THE GROUND AND CALL MY NAME...
...A GATE TO PARCA SHALL OPEN AND I WILL BRING MY ARMY OF THE DEAD TO YOUR AID.
HOWEVER, THE GATE CAN BE OPENED BUT ONCE EVERY HUNDRED DAYS.
YOU EXPECT ME, RULIYA...
...TO USE SUCH A WEAPON?
YOU NOW HOLD...
...THE TWO GREAT POWERS! AS A WOMAN, YOU CAN GIVE LIFE.
AS A KNIGHT, YOU CAN SUMMON DEATH.
TWO SIDES OF THE SAME COIN. HOW YOU USE THEM IS COMPLETELY UP TO YOU. BONE.
LOOK AT HER...

WITH THE BLADE OF DEATH IN HER HANDS, SHE IS *TRULY* BEAUTIFUL.

I FIND NO JOY IN *COMPLIMENTS* FROM A *SKELETON.*
YOU MISJUDGE MY WORDS.
YOU HAVE *FAR* TOO MUCH *FLESH* FOR OUR TASTES.
I MEANT THE *MANNER IN WHICH* YOU WIELD SUCH POWER— *BEAUTIFULLY.* BONE.
WELL THEN...
WE SHALL MEET AGAIN...
[redacted] KNIGHT RULIYA...
LADY RULIYA...
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF *NISELLE* AND *ASHIKA* FOR *ME...*

ENTER THE WORLD OF AQUA KNIGHT...


IN MARMUNDO, A GREAT WHITE TOWER PIERCES THE SKY...
AQUA KNIGHT PREVIEW, BY YUKITO KISHIRO

AT ITS BASE IS A MESSAGE,
WRITTEN BY THE GODS
IN AN ANCIENT TEXT.
IT HAS PUZZLED MANY KINGS.
DIFUNDE LA ALEGRÍA
"SPREAD JOY"

THE CHILDREN OF THE SEA
DWELL HERE
IN THE DEPTHS...

THE FISH GOD SLEEPS
IN THE FIELD OF STARS
AND LEGENDS OF STEEL
TELL OF THE WAR BETWEEN GODS.

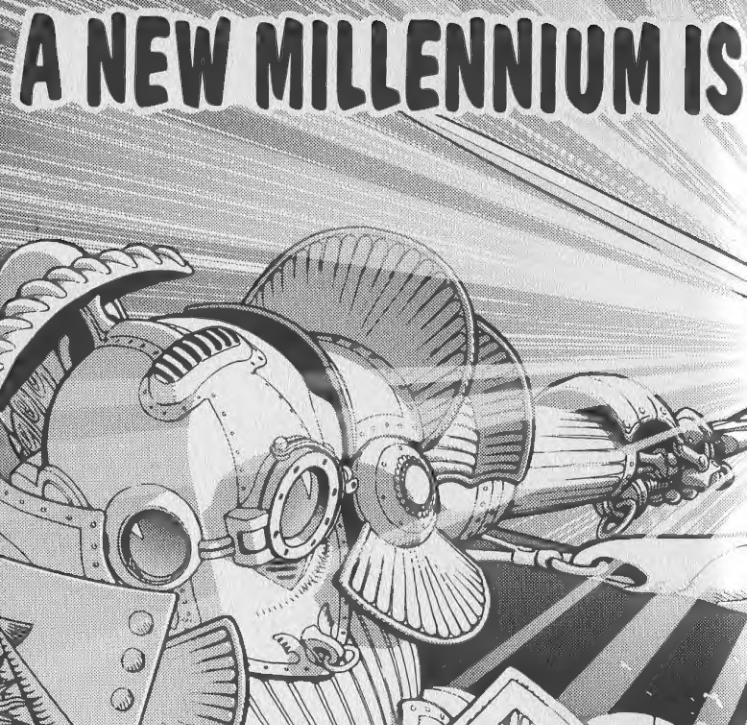
BUT THOSE WARS ARE LONG
SINCE PASSED.
THE IMMORTAL FISH
DREAM A FESTIVAL OF CHILDREN
WHO BREATHE...AND PLAY...
AND DIE.

THIS IS A TALE OF THOSE WHO YEARN...

YEARN FOR THE BLADE...
YEARN FOR GOLD...
YEARN FOR MYSTERIES.
AND OF THOSE WHO YEARN FOR MEN, FOR WOMEN...
...AND FOR THE STARS ABOVE...

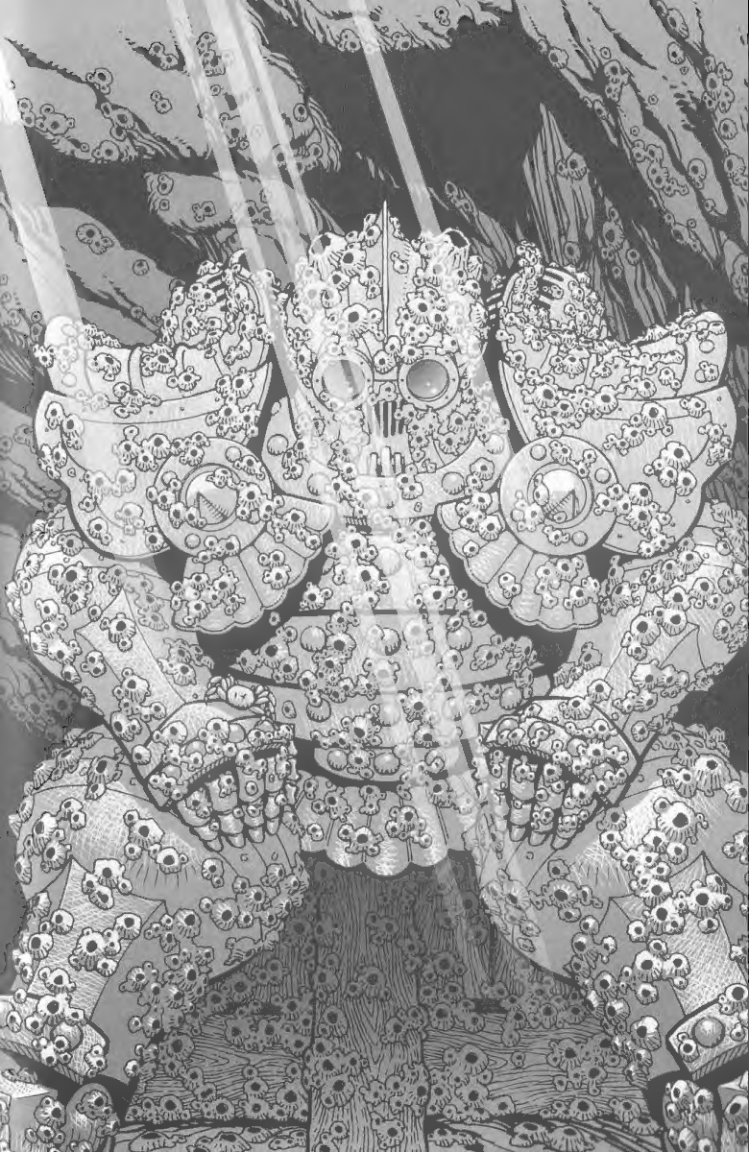
THE STORMS WILL END.
THE FESTIVAL WILL CONTINUE.

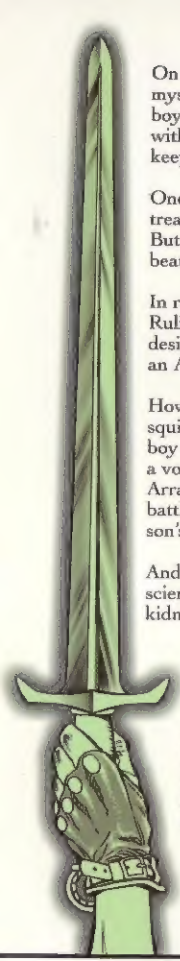
A NEW MILLENNIUM
IS ABOUT TO BEGIN.



A NEW WORK BY
THE CREATOR OF
BATTLE ANGEL ALITA!

LEVIATHAN SAGA:
AQUA KNIGHT
VOL. 2
AVAILABLE NOVEMBER '01





On a remote island on a mystical aqueous world, a naive young boy named Ashika lives a tranquil life with his father, Arrabarus the lighthouse keeper.

One day, the boy discovers an unusual sunken treasure: a high-tech suit of underwater armor. But what's even more unusual is the beautiful female warrior trapped inside!

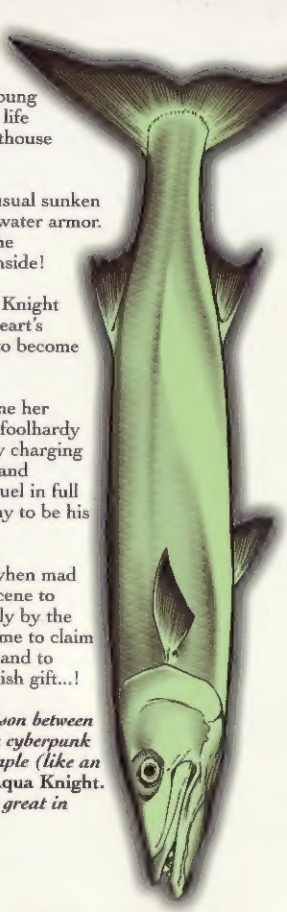
In return for saving her life, Aqua Knight Ruliya offers to grant Ashika his heart's desire. To her surprise, he wishes to become an Aqua Knight like her!

However, before Ashika can become her squire, both are sorely tested. The foolhardy boy attempts to prove his mettle by charging a voracious legendary sea dragon, and Arrabarus challenges Ruliya to a duel in full battle armor to prove herself worthy to be his son's mentor.

And things really get out of hand when mad scientist Alcantara arrives on the scene to kidnap and plunder, followed closely by the Lord of the Underworld, come to claim the life of one of our heroes and to present another with a fiendish gift...!

"There's literally no comparison between Yukito Kishiro's complex, dark cyberpunk **Battle Angel Alita** *and the simple (like an angel) heroic fairytale that's* **Aqua Knight**. *Except, of course, that both are great in every aspect."*

--Comic Buyer's Guide



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